

CLORIA

AND

NARCISSUS.

A Delightfull and New
ROMANCE,

Imbelished with divers Political
Notions, and singular Remarks of
Modern Tranflations.

WRITTEN

By an Honourable Person.

LONDON,

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To the Reader.

I was my chance being beyond-sea, to have the perusing of some of this Story, which according to my sense and understanding then, appeared not only delightful in the reading, but seemed to my capacity to contain in many places mysteries, belonging to the transactions of Forain Parts either at present, or not very long before put in execution: this gave my appetite, I must confess, some effectual desire to have them put in such a posture, as they might prove commodious to friends, as beneficial to my self; being also unwilling

To the Reader.

ling, the labour and pains should be altogether lost of this nature, since for many years past, not any one Romance, hath been written in the English tongue; when as daily from other Nations, so many of all sorts fly into the World to be seen: however for a long time these reasons could not prevail with the Author; yet, whether out of any diffidence in apprehension, or for other secret causes, I cannot tell: but at last by much importunity, joyned together with other particular relations of my own, I obtained a grant of my request, provided I used not the Authors name, in the Printing or Publishing of the same I having made already this progress in my designes, I think it requisite to give the Reader this further intimation, That the whole (as I am informed) will contain three parts; neverthelesse in regard the expence
would

To the Reader.

would have been something too large, for my Conveniency and Estate, to be done at one time, I forbear as yet that Charge and Hazard; desiring first to see, how this would take with the constitution of the Age; especially when reading is of so little use, that Stationers generally complain, that they can scarce put off with any considerable commodity, such Books, which they have lying by them to that purpose: may also add this, that however the Title having reference to a further issue, (this being only the First Part) doth not perhaps in that, sufficiently content the thoughts of the Reader; he may please to be advertized, before he resolve to cast away a few hours upon a subject of this kind, that notwithstanding the Catastrophe, or last period, be not in this little Volume exprest, yet he may if he will, finde a sufficient conclusion

To the Reader.

sion (by consequences) in that which is already Published, for the perfect Decorum of any Romance, though the continuation intended, should not invite his Curiosity further to proceed, as occasion shall be given, or his own leisure may be free from other more necessarie Employments. This is all I have to say for it, or my self.

THE

THE
FIRST PART
OF
Cloria and Narcissus.

Beautifull *Aurora* had newly drest the pearled Morning with a ruby Coronet to entertain her Lover, who began already to mount his golden Chariot for the days Triumph, when unfortunate *Cassianus* in the great Forest, between the Mountain *Timolius*, and the City of *Sardis*, rose from his grassie bed, under the large Canopy of a wel-spredd Oak, where the night past he underwent an inconvenient lodging for want of better shelter; and being seated upon the root of that tree, that however had favourably contributed its best assistance toward his accomodation, with intention (according to his custom) to pay an early offering to his sorrow, whilst his Page saddled his horse that procured more bountifull entertainment than his Master, since the time of the year had provided plentiful provision for his appetite; of a sudden his ear was saluted by a well-run'd cry of deep-mouth'd hounds, that seemed to charm the ayr with a delightful harmony, which consequently gave the Prince some interruption to his resolutions: but long he had not contemplated the pleasingness of the Musick, with a certain strife inwardly notwithstanding, whether his complaints; or attentiveness should receive more friendly welcom in his discontented bosom, before he might

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might see a young Gentleman, in a hasty hand-gallop to approach the place where he rested, which obliged him, as he thought, to quit the seat, whereby he might receive information concerning his travels towards *Euarchus* Court, his absolute ignorance in the Countrey having made him lose his way that should have conducted him to some Town that might have instructed his knowledg in the journey. But the youth beholding a stranger of a seeming quality in that posture, not only stopped the speedy course of his appearing well-breath'd horse, but when he came at a nearer distance, in a gentle trot advanced towards him, with intention to offer all courteous civilities, since he perceived the open heavens had only given him welcom, and to that purpose saluted him with this language

Sir, said he, it hath been still the custome of *Lydia* to comply with the necessity of strangers, of what quality soever; wherfore I should commit a sin against the rules of hospitality in passing by your person with a regardless neglect to what you might stand in need of, finding you here at this time of the day, and the rather, for that in outward appearance your condition may merit the highest respect; to which purpose, I have resolved to leave my sport, whereby the more conveniently to conduct you to the Kings presence, if your pleasure shall condescend to the intention, being now preient in this exercise of hunting, who would no doubt, correct my ill-natur'd rudeness, if I should commit so great a fault, as not to let his Majesty know, that the woods had entertained such a guest without his welcom and privity. And although I am but a Gentleman that waits upon the King in his Chamber, I may have yet the honour to attend you to him, where I dare presume, your reception will in some

some sort be answerable to your worth, though my quality merit not your esteem. *Cassianus* glad that he had hapned upon a conductor that could so easily present him to the King; and that his Majesties recreation gave him so speedy and convenient an occasion, after he had given him thanks for the offer, told him, that as his ignorance in the passage had made him stand in need of the least assistance to winde him out of the intricate labyrinth of these woods, that had imployed his thoughts for the night past, since he could neither be safe from wild beasts or robbers, according to his doubtfull apprehension; but was more fortunate to have such a worthy guide to accompany him to the uttermost end of his journey, for that probably his arrival at the Court would be the period of his business; And therefore he should, as he said, extremely oblige a wandering Pilgrim in the office. But because the King was so passionately imployed (as he was informed) for the present with his fortunate sport, *Cassianus* supposed it scarce manners to give interruption by his addresses; so that he walked up and down a green walk, demanding such questions as were necessary for his information, until the youth also modestly desired some satisfaction concerning his adventures; which was the easier granted, since the relation not only suited well enough with the Princes intention of courtesie & affability, but with the conveniency of the time; when they were both seated upon the same roote that had been *Cassianus* uneasie pillow, he gave him this instruction of his Fortunes, with few or no circumstances but what many deep sighs contrived: My Father, said he, Prince of *Iberia*, was in his youthfull years inflamed with the report of the excellent beauty of *Elizana* your Kings sister, whose fame could not be circumscribed within the limits of *Ly-*

dia, which made him, after a long solicitation by Letters, take a journey in person to the Court, to tender the affection and respects due to a Lady of so eminent birth and virtues; notwithstanding he seemed not to bring with him dignity, titles, and riches sufficient to deserve so glorious a match: This, I must tell you rendred the Queen her mother then living an absolute enemy to his Courtships, supposing her daughter to be undervalued by the choice: nevertheless, the State of *Lydia* finding not only a certain concurrency in their Loves, but an agreement of their Religions, for that both Countries had left the obedience of *Delphos*, perswaded the King her Father to the alliance, supposing all other defects would be buried by those unities, so that in a short time the Marriage was solemnized with most magnificent Ceremonies, though in the interim the triumphs were something obscured by the sudden death of the Princee her elder Brother, whose disposition in his life gave such opinions of his future greatness, that the world began already to tremble with the very apprehension of his fate; yet the accident advanced my Mother a step neerer to the Crown, since there was none left of the Race to inherit, but my Uncle *Euarchus* and her self; and this by consequence made my Father in the apprehension of *Asia*, a far greater Prince than his own Fortunes could pretend unto; insomuch as returning into his native Country with his illustrious Bride, what honour could be imagined was cast upon him by the admiring people, which honours raised excessively his aspiring thoughts, notwithstanding many of his own rank began to envy his prosperity, especially one *Tygranes* Duke of *Colchis*, who ever esteemed himself in possession, the more powerful Prince: In fine, the Kingdom of *Mesopotamia* revolting at the same time from
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the jurisdiction of *Artaxis* King of *Armenia*, my Father was earnestly sollicitated to take upon him the Crown, since he was only able by his power and alliance, as the people pretended, to defend their proceedings against their tyrannical Lord, who had usurped too great a Prerogative, both over their Laws and Consciences. The offer in a manner was no sooner proposed to the ambition of his youth, being tickled with the desire of bearing the name of a King, though many had refused the same tender; but he accepted of the Government, promising his protection, as the Subjects did their fidelity, and in this hopefull agreement he was with all Ceremony and State, dignified with the Diadem in the Regal City of the Kingdom: But the possession, however it brought with it honour and dignity, it lessened not his care or trouble, since the glory was to be maintained now it was purchased. This enterprize gave as earnest warning to *Artaxis* to be diligent in providing Forces to suppress the example, and punish the esteemed Rebellion, that else might prove a leading Card as he thought, to the quiet state of the rest of his Dominions, that began already to waver in their obedience, as it did desire in my Father to maintain what he had got, though it were with never so great a violence and hazard: In the first place *Artaxis* dispatches Ambassadors, not only to all his Friends in other Countries, laying before them the dangerous consequences of such a Revolt; but also sent Messengers to his own Subjects, possessing them with the fear of the Rebels insolency, however his endeavors so little prospered for the present to his advantage, the first sort being too far off to give him speedy assistance, as the other too disobedient to lend him much ayd, that his General was constrained to take the

Field with a very small number; only the Army within some few weeks became increased by an addition of *Tygranes* Forces, whose envie to my Father, notwithstanding the neer kindred between them, had rendred him a most mortal enimie. But *Artaxis* General finding it was full time to dispute the right by the Sword, though upon any disadvantage, since all protraction did but increase the peoples suspicion of the Kings disability, that was not able to chastise one Subject who seemed to rebel against his Majesty and Power, with as much courage as could proceed from desperate hopes, marched against the City where my Father continued his Court, guarded with Souldiers sufficient to have besieged *Artaxis* whole Armie, if their hearts and affections had been answerable to their number and accommodation; And in this posture the General not only sets upon the wall (the Garrison not expecting the boldness of the attempt) but in a short time became master both of the Gates and Streets, to the confused amazement of all the Inhabitants, who seemed neither to have will nor power to resist, so that the strange news scarce giving conveniency and time to my Father with his whole Family, to fly from the danger, he had not opportunity to draw his Sword in the defence of himself and Crown, but through private and obscure Woods, was constrained to convey his Wife and Children, until he arrived under the protection of a Commonwealth, that at the beginning of the designe had lent a willing and considerable aid to the action. *Artaxis* hearing of this extraordinary success, not only beyond his expectation, but in a manner above all belief, caused publick Sacrifices to be made to the Gods through the chief Temples, that he might not seem in the Peoples apprehensions to be ungratefull for
such

such large benefits, and to increase the more his Subjects opinions, that the very heavens intended to fight for his Right, since he made Religion the chief cause of the Warr, he gave it out the Victory was no less than miraculous, since his General, as 'twas said, had been instructed in the assault by a divine Revelation, which had made him venture upon so desperate an enterprise; but however the King was thought by many over-superstitious, yet the General and *Tygranes* omitted no industry to render our House miserable; the first continuing in those parts after the battel, with half the Army to suppress the last sparkles of common Rebellion, as the other led the rest into *Iberia* my Fathers Countrey, to make himself Master of that Territory, bestowed upon him by *Artaxis*, in recompence of his service done against our Family; in which employment they both thought and strived to exceed each other in cruelty, not only in undoing our present prosperity, but also in rooting out our future remembrance; the one possessing himself of all the subsistence that should have nourished my Father, his Wife, and Children, as the other bereaved him of his Honour that would have made him and his Posterity capable of better fortunes; and in this manner were we all turned a begging, as I may say, into the wide World, to converse with nothing but want, disgrace, and trouble; whilst our enemies enjoyed our Towns, Castle, Titles, & Countrey; which continued my poor Father so discontent for some years, having nothing to live upon but what he received from the bounty of his Father-in-Law, untill at last not being able longer to endure the sharp frowns of his spitefull fates, accompanied with the cruel usage of his malicious enemies, he willingly paid Nature her due, and changed his inconstant Habitation here, for

for a perpetual one hereafter ; leaving his Wife and all his Children, not only to bewail his death, though they esteemed him much more happy than themselves, but to provide anew against the storms of other miseries, since we wanted a director to steer our courses ; however, my Mother being endued with admirable virtues and courage, endeavoured by the small, though loving subsistence she received from her Friends, not only to bring up her many children, with all the exquisite breeding she could devise, but by the affability of her natural behaviour and conversation, strived to gain the love and compassion of all *Asia* ; insomuch, as for the first she set us in the world at convenient years not to be a shame to our well-descended Family ; and for the later, she so compassed her design, that no heart in a manner, but wisht her prosperity. In this posture we remained until she sent me to be a Suter to a rich Heir, with hopes again to raise our House to some eminency, by obtaining the possession of another Principality that rightly belonged to the young Lady ; but *Tygranes*, as if he had absolutely sworn himself an enemy to all that could do good to our Family, not only became also a pretender to the same Match, but prevailed so far with *Artaxis* before the Marriage could be obtained, that he sent a powerfull Army to besiege the Lady in her Castle, and so by force possessed themselves both of her Person and Patrimony, leaving me again to my desperate Fortunes, not having any Force to defend her Rights, or maintain my own Pretensions ; that ever since hath continued me a wanderer through most of the Princes Courts of *Asia*, to seek relief ; which at last hath brought me into the quiet haven of *Euarchus* Country, with the same intention to demand his willing assistance ; my hopes being more increased

creased by reason of the general fame of the peaceable state of his rich and powerful Dominions. But scarce was he come to the end of this discourse, when the King himself alighting to take a fresh Horse, near the place where they were, whereby the better to pursue his begun sport, *Cassianus* had opportunity to present himself to his view and consideration; the company in the mean time, with a certain amazed haste, making way for his approach, since the adventure of a Stranger in such a posture, seemed to invite all their expectations: wherefore when he came at so convenient a distance, that his words might easily be heard; supporting his body by a small Ebony-Lance he carried in his hand, with a confident modestly delivered these words.

Mighty King, said he, although your Imperial Diadems seems to flourish with Olive Branches, whilst the ambition of other Princes make but the Prerogative of their Crowns nourish the lusts of their own tyranny, and by that means, instead of being Protectors of their people, deliver them up to slaughter and oppression; yet certainly the Gods have not only placed you upon a Throne to be happy yourself by a lasting peace, but to render others satisfied by your power and justice, especially when the heavens are dishonoured by their injuries; and with that wept, which for the present stopt the progress of his discourse; But being encouraged to further expressions by the Kings pity, however his language seemed strange to his ears, as his person did to his eyes; when he had dried his fair face with a handkercher, he uttered this language. Great Sir, said he, as I shall not need to trouble you with many particulars concerning the unhappy passages of my Fathers fortunes, since the story I suppose hath been sufficiently presented

presented to your eares by common fame, if not by more exact relations, so must I at this time, not only give you an account of my own actions, being encouraged thereunto by your Majesties appearing favours, but also do presume upon redresses according to your power & goodness: to this purpose be pleased to know that my name is *Cassianus* your most unfortunate Nephew, being driven from my rights and possessions in the fruitfull country of *Iberia*, by the tyrannical oppressions of *Artaxis* King of *Armenia*, who hath caused me since my years gave me ability, both to understand and prosecute my own affairs, to travel through most part of *Asia*, to seek assistance amongst other Princes of my own rank; but finding them for the most part so much incumbred, by reason of their troublesome occasions, or I may say not willing to expose themselves to any danger or hazard concerning anothers benefit, though my injuries lye before them as warning examples for their own conditions, I could obtain from their curtesies no hopes of any assistance, though many complements were used of good wil & affection, unless I could procure other greater Monarchs to joyn with them in the quartel. These answers quickly carried my endeavours to the Court of *Syria*, where at present reigns *Orsames* that mighty King, who after I had also presented unto him my desires, he seem'd to wonder why I should make my addresses to himself or any other Prince in *Asia*, when you notwithstanding your power, peace, & tranquillity, appeared to be so far from giving me any aid in my necessities, that you were not at all sensible of my sufferings; how ever he told me, that if I could yet procure the breach of that amity between you & *Artaxis*, wherby some considerable supplies might come from *Lydia*, abounding as he said rather in luxuries than in activity, he would

presently

presently declare war against the *Armenian* King, by wth means I might come again into the possession of my lost rights. These intimations I bring from one powerful Monarch to another, & such supplications my own necessities require me to make, the rather for that not only your royal blood hath honoured my birth from my most Illustrious Mother, but the same worship of the Gods are exercised both in *Lydia* and *Iberia*; which being said, he again rested silent with tears in his eyes.

Euarchus, after he had fully understood with a pensive attentiveness his Nephews request, & entertained him with those complements, & that welcome his condition & alliance merited, he only for the present told him, that as a matter of this consequence required a judicious consideration, so he might be confident of his love and affection, and withall invited him for diversion, to be a partaker of the *Lydian* pastime, agreeing as he said, with his youth & courage, which gave their thoughts for some hours sufficient employment. However, the King being in his own nature extremely solicitous, though personally he followed the sport, according to his custom, with the formost, yet having received, contrary to his expectation, a subject of such consideration, all the day did labour in his mind a resolution; one while reflecting upon the quiet & prosperity of his own Kingdoms; and then again weighed the pretended injuries of his neer kinsman, professing the same worship of the Gods, besides the glorious offer of *Orfames*, wth as he thought, did in a manner compel him to be active: but the night coming on so fast, the King was not only forced to put off his unprofitable meditation untill a more convenient season, but to command the retreat from that delightfull exercise to be sounded: Wherefore taking the youth by the hand,

hand, with whose person & behaviour he seem'd to be already in love, he placed him by him in his Coach, and so entertained the time with discourses of his fortunes, untill they arrived at the Palace, which for it's singular beauty deserves a particular description.

The house was seated upon the banks of the river *Pactolus*, by whose refreshing streams, the delightful gardens placed of all sides, seem'd to flourish with an exact greenness: the Portal was formed of white Marble, with columns architrave freez and cornish; on the top it was Crowned with a *Cornucopia* incompassing an azure Globe, supported by little *Cupids* with gilded wings; under which they passed through a square Court, set round about with excellent Statutes of brass in *Niches*: the structure it self was of *Oriental Granet stone*, so interlaced with *Ionick* and *Corinthian* pillars of divers colours, that as it gave the eye a most delectable object, so it rendred the Edifice much more sumptuous; At the upper end was a large Tarase elevated six steps; upon the stairs stood *Hiacinthia* the Queen, to give her husband meeting accompanied by the new stranger.

As soon as *Cassianus* beheld that beauty mixt with a kind of sweet majesty, that both aw'd and pleas'd at the same time, he addrest himself to her presence, like one that intended only to be *Euarchus* suppliant; however the Queen that was ignorant in nothing but pride, with a gentle smile, wth notwithstanding for the more grace, put a vermillion blush in her fair cheeks, gave him a gracious welcome into *Lydia*: but turning his eye on one side, he was suddenly struck with such an amazement, to behold the Princess *Cloria* the Kings daughter, that he had strife enough with his own passions to perform the rest of those reverences due to her Mothers dignity, since his thoughts

thoughts imagined to look upon an earthly deity. She was cloathed in light Taffety for the commodity of the season, thorow which her dainty limbs seemed to appear in admirable proportion, leaving nothing to be hid that hindred the true knowledge of her excellent shape, but yet covered those beauties which are encreased only by opinion and desire. She was crowned with a chaplet of white and red Roses, not yet fully blown; her hair was combed to the full length and breaded with ribons of the same colour, as if art were ambitious of natures liberty; her sleeves were open, and lyned with needlework of the story of *Diana* and *Acteon*, wherein the Nymphs with a confused bashfulness seemed to hide themselves amongst the rushes; and all the rest of her scarce any apparel was so becomming, that either she made it so by her perfections, or her perfections could not be fitted by better inventions.

But the Queen quickly removed *Cassianus* from that object that began already so strongly to charm all his senses, for taking him by the hand, she walked with him many turns about the Tarase, whilst in the mean time he discoursed to her his adventures; however now and then he could not choose but disturb his story, by casting his looks where the Princess stood, though at last she suddenly shot from his sight like a bright star in the firmament, which made him seek her with his eyes to as little purpose: After some time that the Queen seemed sufficiently to have recreated her self in the air, she was informed by an officer of the Court, that the King expected her company in the Parlor.

The room was only divided from the gardens by a partition of bright glasse, interwoven with certain silver Terms that afforded a most delectable prospect upon

upon the *Orange-trees*, and beautiful Fountains : not long after their entrance (in which space the King instructed *Cassianus* in the Masters of his principal pictures) supper was served upon a Marble Table without covering, for the more coolness, neer which was a lake of clear water, where *Neptunes* fate in Majesty with his *Tritons*, that by the artificial turning of a cock, sounded their Trumpets composed of shels at the entrance of every courle.

Cassianus was placed by fortune right over against *Cloria*, which not only gave him sufficient opportunity to contemplate her beauty, but the contemplation it self afforded him such abundant matter to work upon, that he fed more his soul by that delight, than his appetite with the delicious dishes of the Kings table, and certainly had been absolutely lost in that ravishing lethargy, if *Euarchus* had not often wakened him by divers questions concerning his journey, and the rest of his adventures in *Armenia*, to make a civil though scarce a satisfactory answer, but however, as if he esteemed his eyes bound to the duty, he cast his look again that way, which occasioned still more distractedness in his reply ; so that the King believing his Nephews travels required a necessary rest, not only presently rose from the Table, but commanded the chief Nobility of the Court, to conduct the Prince to his lodging, where he had privacy enough to fulfill the desires of his curious fancies, which entertained him all the night with little or no sleep, untill the Kings Musick the next Morning saluted him with this Ditty.

*Fair Prince, your youthful presence here
is like the Sommer of the year,
Welcom'd by hearts of every sort,
to Great Euarchus royal Court.*

May

May blessed visions sent by Jove,
 wait on your slumbers from above,
 Untill bright Phœbus with his beams,
 in season wake you from your dreams;
 And then may objects of delight,
 in every place content your sight:
 Let fortune so observe your way,
 that you command whilst others pray;
 And aged-Time prolong your life,
 beyond the Sisters fatal knife,
 Untill you willingly resigne
 your Soul to be install'd divine.
 Then let old Sardis for it's glory,
 raise up a Homer to your story;
 So as you are a Summer here,
 a Harvest may attend you there.

But however, after some weeks, *Cassianus* seemed to kindle in his youthfull bosom new flames, with those small sparkles he had received from *Cloria's* beauty, w^{ch} often separated him from the rest of the company, that made some believe he was too much discontented with the Kings protraction. Yet *Enarchus* mindfull both of his affection to his Nephew, and the prosperity of his own Countries, finding rumours began too frequently to fly about the Court, by reason of the violent desires of many to be imployed in the Warrs; one day called unto him an antient Officer of his Kingdom, on whose wisdom and fidelity he most relyed in all his weighty Affairs; and leading him into the Garden, where he might both enjoy privacie and recreation, after some necessary circumstances which seemed to usher in his discourse, he used these words: *Polinex* said he, (for so he was called) as I have ever most trusted your knowledge and experience, so have I never been lesse con-

confident of your loyalty and affection, since neither as yet hath deceived my expectation when I had most occasion to use your service, which deservedly renders you a worthy Counsellor, as I desire to be a good Prince, that cannot I hope but produce consequences towards the happy Government of my Kingdoms; however at the present, your faithfull advice is more requisite than ever, since expedition and danger cannot be separated from those undertakings I am violently prest unto. You know that lately there is come to my Court, my Nephew *Cassianus*, a Prince whose person and merits deserve at least a kinsmans consideration, much more his injuries a Kings Justice, the one bids me cherish him with my affection, the other invites me to assist him with my power: however the strict tye of sworn amity between Princes, perswades me to be circumspect in the breach, notwithstanding the head-long precipitation of many of my chief Counsellors who sollicite me to a Warr. Wherefore that I may avoid the hazard of a general disquiet, since I find my people begin to be sick of their own tranquillity, or make Warr upon such grounds that may conserve inviolably my faith with the King of *Armenia*, which the Gods cannot else prosper: I require your opinion.

Polinex, after he had with an humble gravity, heard out the Kings discourse, and taken some time to consider the weightiness of the Counsel, in a distinct manner returned this answer, wherein he used no more eloquence than was necessary for the importance of so great a business, though Nature and Art had furnished him with parts excellent in that kind.

Sir, said he, as benefits had from Princes are past requital in a Subject, even like graces received from the Gods, by which we are enabled to do something,

So I the unusefullest of your Servants; though most honoured by your goodnesse, may by the reflection of your lustre, merit the office of a Counsellor, because you have been pleased to make me one; but if I should in the least thought prove a Traytor to your glory (as a haynous offence that ought to bury the remembrance of any good past) I did not onely deserve to be divested of all your former benefits, but to be condemned to the worst of punishments; since your transcendent favours have rendred my defects considerable: however, if my weaknesse chance to erre, and not my will, that mercy which makes you resemble the Gods I must challenge; and thus according to your royal command, I freely deliver my opinion: A War wisely undertaken, ought chiefly to be accompanied with two considerations; the right of the Quarrel, and the power of the Quarreller; the first makes a man a just Enemy, the second a prevailing Conquerour; without either of which, certainly a Prince cannot be fortunate, since he must be an oppressor or a loser, and why your Majesty should not give your self the liberty of such a resolution, notwithstanding the pressing necessity of your Kinman; I know no reason, since your Kingdoms are more to be valued than his Country; and your honour than his benefit, though I will not at all dispute the worth of his person. Besides, you are to consider with what Prince you are to have the difference, not onely a Neighbour that never yet injur'd your right in any thing, but of the contrary one with whom you have sworn a perfect friendship, which is an alliance the heavens have made to be preferrd far before humane kindred, since the one is seal'd but with flesh and blood, as the other hath imprinted it's character in the skies. Again, for you to pro-

clame a War of blood, before you have demanded peace by a friendly disputation, were to stile you cruel, since no violence proceeding from the greatest ambition ever practised such an injustice, to put in execution a force to obtain that which perhaps the Enemy you intend to make, will easily grant; and as it will be esteemed more charity and goodnesse, to perswade than compell, although the cause be absolutely just; so if the contrary, you are a double injurer, one way in beginning an unlawful contention without provocation; the other, in breaking those ties that ought to oblige all Princes to an inviolable observation. Also, you may be pleased to consider your hazard, since your own safety is first to be valued, whether in honour or prosperity; for although your Kingdomes do in some sort equal *Armenia* in multitude of men and warlike provision, yet in respect of the long neglect of Martial Discipline they are rendred as it is to be feared, wholly incapable of a present expedition; and your treasure, notwithstanding it be sufficient to maintain the expence of your peaceable Government; yet, it will be found no way able to undergo the charge of a powerful Army; so that whether your people, so unaccustomed to oppression, and impatient of subjection, from whose purses must come the supply, (inconstant by nature to their own desires, witness their promises lately upon the same occasion) will be brought blindfold to contribute, without being privy to every secret Intention, in my Judgement is scarce a Question; and how dangerously destructive that would prove to any enterprize, when the multitude must be made acquainted with each stratagem of State, I leave your Majesty to judge. Therefore my opinion is, that until you can provide a store out of your
your

your own renew, without depending altogether upon the uncertainty of your Subjects bounty, no warlike undertaking can prove glorious, or beneficial; but of the contrary dangerous and unprofitable: So that all you can do for the present, is to send an Ambassador with reason to perswade, & not a Herald with thretnings to denounce, which in all probability will not only give satisfactiō to your distressed Kinsman; but win time till you be better provided.

This advice extremely pleased the King, who aimed rather at present content than future glory, although his courage might pretend to the greatest honour, not only that it took away the occasion of exhausting his treasure, but was also as he thought, a principal means still to maintain his state in tranquillity, and his government without perturbation. Wherefore parting from *Polinex* with such a smile as sufficiently perswaded him, he was well satisfied with his Counsel, sent presently for Prince *Cassianus*; to whom he communicated his determination, which was forthwith to imploy an Ambassadour, to demand reason of the King of *Armenia*. But however this determination did not much discontent *Cassianus*; because it gave him opportunity to remain in *Lydia*, whereby he might the better prosecute his secret affections to the fair Princess *Cloria*, yet those that violently desired employment in the Wars, though it were bought with never so much prejudice to the Kings affairs, extreme'y mutinied against *Polinex* his Counsel, amongst which number there was a Nobleman called *Dimogoras*; one whose Birth exceeded his wit, as his ambition did his courage, and his fortune not answering either, made him much more violent than the rest, since he supposed if he lost this opportunity for action, *Enarchus* resolutions for peace

would become more established; besides, he hated the Kings person, because he had formerly received many Court-affronts, procured by his own factious spirit; wherefore he took occasion by this means, not only to inform the State of *Syria*, that *Euarchus* could not be drawn to make War against any of the kindred of *Soroastes* King of *Egypt* upon what pretence soever, but secretly possess all manner of people either with the Kings want of courage or good nature, since coldly he was content as he said, to let sleep the oppressions of his injur'd Nephew without revenge: but principally he blamed the pernicious Counsellors, as he termed them, of *Polinex*, who strived to rock *Euarchus* mind into a lethargy of repose, that he alone might rule the State with more conveniency towards the particular enriching of his own Family; & the rather were these factious spirits dangerous, because the King was resolved, out of the rules of hospitality, not to question any thing that was said in *Cassianus* behalf; which within a short space began insensibly to penetrate the hearts of the vulgar. *Dimogoras* having a principal interest in their Affections, not only because they knew he was not esteemed at Court, but for that commonly men of least eminent worth have the fortune to gain the opinion of the multitude, since they hate virtue, because they are resolved not follow it. However, *Euarchus* to remedy (the sweetest way he could) these growing inconveniencies which yet appeared not in full prospect to divert his Nephews thoughts from entertaining discontented Counsellors, proclaimed a general hunting of the wild Boar, at wch time *Cassianus* being summoned by the early morning to the delightful sport, he found the King ready prepared for the Forest, upon the plain before the Palace gate, where *Hyacinthea* the Queen, not so much

much pleased with the Chase as to accompany her Husband, soon repaired with the choicest Ladies, whose dress resembled the chaste Goddess *Diana* in the like exercise; onely upon her head she wore a Hat, the more commodiously to cover the fair tresses of her hair, that were imbraced with rowes of rich pearl, since no meaner ties were fit to adorn so bountiful a treasure; and in this posture they issued out, animated by the importunate solicitation of the Huntsmen, who seemed over-ambitious to be in their elements; at leastwise so interpreted by love-sick *Cassianus*, who thought all the preparation nothing, since *Cloria* the onely Star of his desires was not to be of the Society, her Mother judging her by much too young for the pastime. No sooner was the uphandsome Beast dislodged from his darksom Habitation, when every person well horst, endeavored to shew his own skill, & his Coursers vigour, whilst the solitary Woods resounded with the cheerful noise of divers horns that seemed to encourage the Hunters; onely the women complained that Nature had not ordained them proper for the sport, since their attire would not permit them to pass through the thickest copses.

But *Cassianus*, who was willing otherwise to be employed; thinking that confusion spoke not to his imagination the soft language of a Lover, retired presently from the crowd, though he suffered his Horse in a manner to be his own Director, untill the permittance within a short space, brought them both into an ample Plain; notwithstanding so environed with low wood, that the eye could scarce discern any other passage than what *Cassianus* had found, where also a gentle, though plentiful seeming Spring, had made a pretty Brook, if the hot

reason had not tyrannically suppress part of its current; yet it appeared beautifull in that littleness, because it contributed to the flourishing greeness of the place, and that beauty invited *Cassianus* to enjoy the delight thereof: Wherefore alighting from his Horse, and turning his bridle over his head, to give him the more liberty to please himself in that luxurious Pasturage, whilst he meant only to feed upon the sadness of his own thoughts, sat down upon the Bank of the River, into which he let fall many of his tears, as if he intended to supply the accidental defect thereof; but when the fountain of his eyes had paid a sufficient tribute to his grief, and that his sighs had awakened him to some expression, he discoursed to himself in this manner, since the ignorant Woods seemed no way capable of his complaints, but in returning a dolefull eccho to augment his sufferings.

Unfortunate *Cassianus*, said he, whose youth hath scarce numbred years to make thee a perfect subject of misery, and yet thy crosses render thee the only unhappy spectacle of all *Asia*; for that almost at one instant thou didst not alone lose thy dear Father and fruitfull Country, but art forced to become a wandering Pilgrime thorow the whole World without compassion, since thy sufferings do not afford thee a competent pity amongst other Princes of thy own rank, much less a necessary assistance from those which are above thee in dignity: And last of all, when thou hadst thought to have attained some harbour of consolation under the protection of thy powerful Uncle, abounding in all plenty and tranquillity, thou art again cast upon a new Rock that threatens thy ruine, in that thou neither darest own that love which destroys thy rest, nor hast hope to quench the flames of thy desire to give thy self ease, the one being too

violent

violent to be suppress, as the other too impossible to be obtained : For canst thou think fond *Cassianus*, said he, that her innocency may be attempted without the consent of her Parents? Or that her Parents can be won to so unprofitable a Match? and yet sweet *Cloria*, consider rather the vertue of an entire affection, that is, the only tye required by the just heavens, than the sole commodity of Empires, to make thee happy in a choice ; but alas, alas, I foolishly bestow my vain Breath upon the abundant Ayr, and my sorrowfull Tears to increase the plentiful Springs, since neither have power to contribute to my redress, when it must be action, if any thing, that will afford satisfaction ; and yet with what face thou canst present thy widow Love to so excellent a Purity, the Gods must only instruct, if they intend at all to be propitious in thy affairs. But as he was again taking a new carreer of passion, he might see of a sudden the hunted Boar foaming with his own choler, rush out of the thickest woods, and not long after a youth of a manly proportion, who followed the chase with a bold eagerness, however by his different attire, he was easily to be discerned to be none of the morning Company : this prospect invited *Cassianus*, with some curiosity to attend the success of the encounter, since the valiant Beast finding himself to be pursued by so exact a courage, quickly turned with fury upon the young-man, which represented to his expectation a spectacle not more dangerous than pleasant, for honour & cruelty seemed to contend for victory. The conflict endured a long time, the one striving by a rude violence to avoid destruction, as the other with a handsom activity sought to become victorious, till at last both being heated with the fight, began to approach at a nearer distance, since the youths

spear broken in the encounter, afforded him no other convenience to offend his enemy, which however he managed with so much advantage, that the Boar having received many wounds, was forced with open mouth to attempt his persecuter as his last refuge, though to his ruine: for the stranger taking advantage of his unskilful rage, thrust his short weapon with his whole hand, into the Boars throat, with so fortunate an issue, that the point appeared in his neck behind, though the stroak deprived him not presently of life, but seemed rather to give him new courage, however less power; for turning afresh with a new fury upon the disarmed youth, he had no defense to prevent the danger but to traverse his ground, until the Beast's much loss of blood, by reason of his enraged agitation, made him become the trophy of his honour, who quickly separated his head from his body, with a short Sword he wore by his side, as the testimony of a perfect Conquest, and then placed it upon a little hill, supported with a broken Lance, whilst he himself approached the River to wash his hands that were bespotted in the fight with the Boars blood.

Cassianus having beheld this Combat with a most earnest delight, if any thing could be termed delight that his sad imagination look'd upon, thought he could no lesse than congratulate so pleasing a Tragedy, and to that purpose rose from his seat with that intention, which the stranger beholding, though until then he was not advertised of any bodies presence in that solitary habitation, as quickly prepared himself to give him the meeting, and the rather, for that he appeared a person of some quality, until both their designs brought them to so neer a distance, that the youth was soon known to *Cassianus* to be his
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only Friend *Eumenes*, a Gentleman bred up in his Mothers Court, whose Father had accompanied her out of *Lydia* into *Iberia*, when she was first married: As the Gods can tell with what inward content these two companions performed their first imbracement, wherein they seemed to be eternally united in fortune, not to be separated again by any disaster, so was it not very long before their desire of knowing each others adventures separated their persons: wherefore seating themselves by that River side that had entertained them both, *Eumenes* was perswaded to begin the First Story, in order to the time it was acted, which he performed after this manner, though he kept still his eye, as a watchful sentinel over his Friends person. *Cassianus*, said he, you know that your virtuous Mother, for my more absolute breeding sent me into *Cyprus* to be trained in the Wars under the command of that excellent Duke, finding my disposition and years suited well enough with the profession, which for the time separated you and me, to both our griefs, though the intention was honourable; and being so, I had reason to dispose my thoughts towards the accomplishment of some perfection in that Noble Exercise; where remaining two Years, as you may have heard, Fortune so favoured my Actions, that in many attempts upon the Enemy, I gained a convenient Reputation; however my Ambition raised my imagination to higher Fancies, in so much as I not only thought upon a Mistress unto whom I might consecrate all my Military Endeavours, as an essential part (as I thought) of a Souldier, but was resolved to fly in no lower a place than in that region where the Dukes only Daughter moved, the fair *Eretheria*, whose perfections (I conceived) were alone fit to captivate my intentions, & to that purpose

purpose, upon all occasions I strived to let the world see my aymes, which soon procured me a multitude of Rivals of no mean quality, who thought it scarce justice to let a Stranger carry away the Glory of *Cyprus*: but not long after, by the violent solicitation of the youthfull Courtiers, a Turnament was proclaimed, upon the Birth-day of the Princess; where every one hoped to shew that valour, that might render him worthy of the high prize ordained for the Conqueror. The time being come for the Trial, the bright Star, *Eretheria*, was placed upon a Throne, like a Deity sent by the Heavens to captivate all Mortal hearts; which sight certainly enflamed every courage with a new Spirit, though we all beheld her as a Comet threatening destruction to many, since but one Pretender could hope to live by her favour; but the sounding of the Trumpets quickly wakened us out of this admiring slumber, to be more gloriously active, which (in truth) performed such deeds of all sides, that *Eretheria* seemed not to be dishonoured in the Encounters; however a young Nobleman of *Cyprus*, passionately also taken with her beauty, seemed all the day to carry away the chief Victory, which procured him, as you may imagine, a competent number of emulators, if not enviers; amongst which company, I must confess, I wisht him not better than the rest; since I supposed my self as deeply interested in the Quarrel: Wherefore choosing one of the biggest Spears I could finde, though my heart was a great deal bigger with the desire of his disgrace, I sought him out in the crowd, with so happy a success to my thoughts, that I quickly unhors'd him in the midd't of his prevailing glory, to the no small amazement of the people, who esteemed him almost Immortal; and therefore Crown'd the
Action.

Action with so loud a shout, that the Heavens seemed to ring for a long time with the noise; which to my infinite content possessed me intirely with the rich Prize from the fair hands of *Eretheria*; besides a multitude of other honours belonging to the Ceremony.

But however I seemed to be carried triumphantly in a Chariot, beyond the reach of any envy, yet my Rival forgot not the effects of revenge; since he esteemed himself not only to suffer in Honour, but in Love; and the rather, for that he imagined from that instant *Eretheria* turned in some sort her looks more graciously towards me than formerly she had done, by reason of the fortunate Success I had in the Tilting. Wherefore one day meeting me half arm'd in the Park belonging to the Court, he set upon me with all violence, both with his Language and Weapon, insomuch that I had enough to do to avoid the one, as I did not at all dispute with him in the other, since my best faculties had employment sufficient to defend my person against so spightfull a valour; though the Gods favouring my innocency more than his injustice, at last gave me an unfortunate Victory, since not only his life was the price of my Conquest, but the fear of a dishonourable death compelled me quickly to quit *Cyprus*, to avoid the prosecution of his powerfull Friends, where however I have left my heart a prisoner, to be condemned or saved by the mercy of beautilous *Eretheria*; which occasioned also the slaughter of this Beast before your eyes; for conceiving my own Countrey my best place of refuge until this storm might be blown over, I retired hither with two servants only, who are not yet arrived; and travelling the Woods, having lost my

my way, I accidentally met with this hunted Boar that set upon me with some fury, which forced me at first to the encounter, else I should have scarce been so uncharitable as to have destroyed the sport: These accidents, dear *Cassianus*, said he, have been the reasons that brought me into *Lydia*, only happy now in our meeting.

Cassianus having both kept silence, and observed attentiveness in his friends discourse, as it were congratulating his story and welcome, by four or five sad sighes, being compelled by his importunity, to make relation of his own fortunes also, without many circumstances, began in this manner: After my unfortunate Father, as you well know, said he, had paid the death of his rash attempt (in taking upon him the Crown of *Mesopotamia*, contrary to the good liking of *Artaxes* great King of *Armenia*) with his death, and loss of his fruitful Countrey of *Iberia*, my Infancy, as you were a witness, was carefully cherished by my Mothers natural goodness; insomuch as she thought not my yeers capable of your employments in *Cyprus*, although both my desires and wishes accompanied you in your journey; however, after your departure she designed me to another War, though by much more gentle, yet not so honourable, which was to court the love of a rich Heir, not far off the place where we lived, by whose power she conceived (if I could compass the Marriage) I might be again rendred capable to contend with *Tygranes* Duke of *Colchis*, who enjoyed the Possession of my native Countrey, by the donation of *Artaxis*, in retribution of that service he did him in the prosecution of my Father; but no sooner had a fitting preparation elevated my thoughts to the enterprise, but the King became advertized of the intention, so that arriving at

at her Castle I was encountred by my double Rivall the Duke, contrary to my expectation, who came there also with the same design, though fortified as he thought with far greater pretensions, since he brought with him the strong recommendation, of his mighty friend the King of *Armenia*; but the Gods know, with what labour I suppress the passion of my soul, that it might not burst out into a rude, and inhospitable contention, to destroy absolutely my intended proceedings, so that both of us addressing our selves to the Ladies presence, with a quiet civility, we were received in outward shew with equal courtesie, which continued us for some weeks in her Palace, only seeking occasions how we might best present our affections, with most conveniency to deceive each other: But the Duke, whether impatient of his long attendance, or suspecting I received private favours to his prejudice, of a sudden one Morning before any one was up in the house, took his leave both of his Chamber and the Castle, by which means he left me in full possession of my desires, since I thought no obstacle now was able to hinder my proceedings of a prosperous issue; in which paradise of felicity I continued for many dayes, solacing my self with delightful fancies, whilst in the mean time the Duke was preparing a snare not only to captivate the Lady, but to entrap me; for not long after he marched in person with a powerfull Army to besiege the Castle where we both remained; which newes made me dispose of my self by flight, into certain obscure Woods not far off, whereby I might not only be secure from the danger of my mortal enemy, but have conveniency by my escape to procure some relief to succour the distressed Lady; which accident hath brought me into *Lydia*, to renew my Fathers old sute to *Emarchus*

chus for the recovery of our antient inheritance the Principality of *Iberia*; since the Lady as I hear hath not only lost her Castle but I my hopes; for she is constrained to become a captive wife to the cruel Tyrant *Tygranes* Duke of *Colchis*. And this, dear *Eumene*, is the sad story of my fortunes; and the more to be lamented, since I am not certain to what resolution my Uncles thoughts will be brought, he yet being determined but to send an Ambassador to treat for a peaceable and friendly restitution, whilst in the mean time I languish between hope and despair.

But scarce was he come to this issue, when they might hear the Hounds in full cry pursue the footsteps of the dead Boar towards the place where they were, which gave *Eumenes* no conveniency for reply, hardly time sufficient to protect the testimony of his victory, from the violent cruelty of the Doggs; who seemed not to be pacified in his death. Wherefore rising from the seat where he sat; and snatching up the head; he held it upon the point of the spear in the air, whilst the Hounds with open mouthes, seemed to besiege his person, untill the Huntsmen themselves comming into the quarr, were forced to defend him from their rude violence, and in that imployment he continued, while the other almost lost company, had leisure to assemble, to perfect the triumph for the slaughter of that cruel Beast, that had done so much mischief in the Country; terrifying the common people with the frightful apprehension of his aspect, who durst not travel by the places of his habitation, to follow their necessary occasion. But not long had the Ladies satisfied their curiosities in beholding the dead Boar, though yet at some distance, scarce believing him so in effect, as also infinitely commending *Eumenes* valour, that had in single Com-

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hate brought him to his destruction, as they understood by *Casfianus*, that had been the eye-witness of the encounter; But the King and Queen in a gentle hand-gallop, made towards them through the same passage that *Casfianus* had found out in his solitary contemplation, which gave *Eumenes* occasion, accompanied with his friend Prince *Casfianus*, to present himself before their persons, not only offering to the Queen the Boars-head as a sacrifice to her beauty, but desired humbly to be excused that he had unwillingly interrupted their sport. When *Casfianus* had certified *Euarchus* fully of all the proceedings in that Combate, wherein he let nothing pass that concerned his friends honour, and also made the King acquainted with his breeding, condition, and Countrey, he soon obtained absolution for his valiant fact: However, the envious evening comming on, which denyed the undertaking of a new Chace, a cessation from that sport was quickly proclaimed by the Kings command, and the rather, for that they returned with victory and spoil: Wherefore *Euarchus* and *Hiacinthia* taking the two friends into their own Coach, whilst the skilfull Coach-man made what hast he could thorow the rugged way, they required of *Eumenes* not only the relation of his own travels, but the satisfaction of the manner of the government of the Island of *Cyprus*, since their revolt from the King of *Egypt*.

Eumenes receiving this injunction from the King, however he supposed, he rather desired to have his curiosity satisfied in his ability, than that his knowledge could any way be instructed by his relation, excusing himself concerning his own particular adventures, as not worthy His Majesties attention, he prosecuted this discourse: Truly Sir, said he, it is

no small difficulty for a person of my mean capacity; to particularize the true causes or motives of the first revolts in any Kingdom; though you are pleased to give me the imployment, since as the complaints for the most part are confused and uncertain, more governed perhaps by the passions and fancies of the common people, than grounded upon right and knowledge: so of the other side, it cannot be denied, but that often times prerogative and power will find out wayes and shifts to cast off the aspersions, either against themselves or favourites; though I must confess both may have reason enough, to defend their allegations, before an indifferent auditory, if such a Tribunal could be instituted; but that not being possible to be had upon earth, most commonly such contentions are only ended by the sword; which Fate hath befall the fruitfull Island of *Cyprus*; though now it be established in a perfect prosperity.

To this purpose, the King of *Egypt*, natural Lord of those Countries; having placed a Lady of eminent vertues as supreme governess for him, both in *Cyprus* and *Pamphylia*, whether the people presuming upon the supposed weakness of her sex, joyned with the inconstancy of their own humours and dispositions; or rather being put on to demand something (though they knew not very well what) that seemed to appertain to their antient privileges, by the ambition of some of the Nobility; (that belike seemed not very well satisfied) of a sudden began most violently to complain of the obstruction of their Customs, as also of the cruelty of the laws made (as they pretended) both against their freedom and consciences; And being transported with these furious fancies, when the Court least thought of their disorders, they run violently to all the chief Temples of
the

City, where I may say, they committed many outrages; of neereſt affinity with ſacrilege and rebellion: but the Governesses extraordinary mildneſs and temper, not only quickly aſſwaged all theſe begun miſdemeanours; but readily pardoned their offences, though ſhe very well knew, many principal perſons were intereſſed in the occaſion of thoſe Tumults; notwithstanding ſhe wiſely and diſcreetly ſeemed not to take notice of them in regard ſuch intimations might create thoſe jealousies; that probably would again kindle a new fire of diſcontent and apprehenſion.

However the Court and Councell of *Egypt*; having underſtood theſe proceedings; whole greatness of Empire and power in command, could brook neither reſiſtance nor diſpute; thought it not agreeing with the honour and dignity of their King (whole authority before theſe accidents, ſeemed rather to be adored than controverted) to ſuffer theſe inſolencies to eſcape, without ſome remarkable ſeverity; as well in regard of the Nobility as the people; preſently deſigned a huge army for theſe Countreys, compoſed of the beſt and oldeſt ſouldiers *Egypt* could produce; And theſe Troops were put under the command of a perſon of the ſame Nation; that better knew how to puniſh facts committed; by a kind of haſty cruelty; than to compoſe differences newly begun, with mildneſs and temper; rather imitating thoſe Phyſicians; which uſe deſperate remedies to perfect the body the ſooner, than by prolonging application to ſave part; for fear the whole ſhould periſh. In ſhort, whole experience in the wars was more antient and glorious, than his nature any way relenting; in ſo much as like a ſtorm coming a far off, demonſtrated by lightning and

thunder, he gave the people cause of fear and terrour, before the tempest arrived; which caused many of them, by the report only, to quit their dwellings; as of the other side, not a few of the Noblemen, that were the least confident of their own loyalty, presently engaged one another in privat counsels. As soon as this great General arrived, he not only dispossessed the Governess her self of her chief authority, by producing a larger Commission, but seized upon the persons of many of the Nobility, whose lives were publickly sacrificed to his fury, whilst terrour and amazement seized the hearts of the common people: Notwithstanding this rough demeanour, he proclaimed every where, should be maintained by the sword, untill his own thoughts could become satisfied of the subjects entire obedience to his commands.

These rigorous and new proceedings, quickly involved the whole Island of *Cyprus* in a trembling confusion, as well as in a future rebellion, inso-much as almost all people entertained these strange beginnings, as sad omens, if not prevented by some timely resistance, that threatned a generall destruction, as well to their lives as estates; when as formerly they held themselves the freest subjects of the world, by reason of those privileges they had gained, by the indulgent natures of their many good and mercifull Princes.

And thus, Sir, I must say, was the first fatal fire kindled in *Cyprus*, which since hath been augmented by the powerfull interest of most of the Potentates in *Asia*: For as upon these pretences the people presently flew out into open hostility, so did they call in as many forein Princes, as they could to their assistance, who glad of any occasion to give bounds

bounds to the *Egyptian Mornarchy*; that then began to swell to a vast largeness in command; readily contributed their best endeavours; especially the Father of *Orsames* King of *Syria*; in so much as the effects since have produced so much blood and slaughter; with other varieties of success and fortune, that many Books might be amplified with the story; untill the succession of command fell to this gallant Duke, that now bears sway in that Region, who hath been so principal an instrument of the happiness and present flourishing condition of the Island (being not more valiant in war, than wise in peace) that the King of *Egypt* himself, is not only reduced at present to that state, by reason of his powerfull contentions against him, both by sea and land; that he seeks peace upon any terms, with a resignation of all his pretended rights; besides the people in regard of the Dukes prudent government, with their own industry, (who at the beginning of these stirs were rather poor and contemptible fishermen; than approved & credible Merchants) are become now so terrible upon the Sea, that by their numerous Vessels for trading, they fetch home to their own quarters, all the riches of the world. The Queen hereupon put a stop to *Eumenes* discourse with this language: And yet I have heard, said she, all the recompence he can procure from their gratitudes, is only a bare pension for his support and subsistence; neither will they willingly allow him any other Title, than their servant; however his valour and conduct in the wars, upon all occasions, brings to their assistance the best spirits of *Asia*, as conceiving him most worthy to be their Master in martial affairs. 'Tis true Madam, answered *Eumenes*, I must needs confess the

People themselves, although naturally they are no Souldiers, being altogether addicted to the industry of the spade, by which faculty they have performed admirable things, to the wonder of other Nations, yet are they crafty enough to maintain their own liberties, and suffer the Duke to enjoy no other jurisdiction over them, than what they are content from time to time, to afford him for their best commodity and advantage: nevertheless it is thought, if his ambition were equal to his power, he might make himself absolute Prince of the Countrey, without contradiction, having the Army so entirely at his command; as well in regard of many factions amongst their Governours, as by reason of the necessity of one head and Governour; especially if they should purchase to themselves peace from the King of *Egypt*, who (as I said before) now seems with earnestness to desire it of them.

After the King had a little smiled upon the Queen at *Eumenes* discourse, so much pretending to the Dukes interest and commendation, being himself extremely perfect in the knowledge of those parts, he began to argue with him in this manner: Although I cannot, said the King, but approve of your observations, and much more commend your affectionate rhetorick in the Dukes behalf, who no doubt in the general deserves as much as you have said, yet I must not conclude altogether with you in belief, concerning this easie accession to soveraignty, though his intentions were directed to those ambitions: for notwithstanding you may see him alwayes attended with glorious and gallant Troops in the field; a prospect, I must confess, that cannot but dazle youthfull or common eyes; yet when

when it shall be considered withall, that the Common Souldiers (who for the most part are rather carried on to their imployments, by their own private gain, than by the advancement of their General) are onely payed by certain treasurers appointed by the people, entirely faithful to their designes, that upon the least disorders may obstruct or detain their wages, either in part or in the whole; it will be a very difficult matter, to unite them absolutely in the Dukes designes against the Common-wealth; especially when it shall be also remembered, that most of all the Towns in the Island, are not only strong both by Nature and Art, but are continually guarded by the Burgers themselves, without having any relation at all to the General, and so by consequence are furnished with provisions of every sort, in so much as the least Fort of the Country, is neither to be surprized by any manner of stratagem, or to be taken without a very long siege, which would give the Dukes army without pay, occasion enough to change their resolutions in the interim; & rather seek to betray his person, than advance his ambition: Wherefore I hold him to be much a wiser man, in desisting from those attempts, than in entring upon designes, that at the worst may ruine his posterity, and at the best cannot much mend his condition; since at the present the people afford him so large a Pension for his entertainment, that doth more than equal the Revenues of many Absolute Princes of the inferiour rank, which is enjoyed, as I may say, without either Hazzard or Trouble.

And however the factions of the people, as you have intimated, may seem something to contribute to this probability, yet considering in their Natures,

I ow much they are addicted to freedom and equality, though such a necessity should compel a change, I am most confident they would rather call in again their old Prince, than make election of any new; much less the Duke, whom however his Birth and Titles are more illustrious, yet in their hearts they rank him as once a Fellow subject with themselves, to the King of *Egypt*. And if peace, as you say, should be intirely restored to that Island, the contrary now being a means the more strongly to unite them against the common enemy, yet such is their hate to a jurisdiction of that nature, I am perswaded would never be brought to that subjection, without an absolute conquest and desolation; witness their not being able, as you have already related to brook it in their lawfull King, under whom they seemed to enjoy all manner of felicity and content: Tis true, it is otherwise with the subjects of *Syria*, who are so wedded to the honour and prosperity of their Prince, that it is impossible to withdraw their fidelities, by any taxations, or almost oppressions whatsoever, though sometimes their Nobility perhaps, flie out against the power and greatness of favorites, who seem something to obscure their interest with their Sovereign, but all dispositions not being alike: As for example, I finde my own subjects begin already to be weary of those happineses under a peacefull Monarch, that other Kingdomes can but only hope for, after a long and bloody experience. The King at these very words, as if he felt something inwardly at the soul, rested silent for a pretty space; and then again, as if he had anew recollected his spirits, kissing the Queen twice or thrice, he altered the subject of his serious discourse, into another of more variety and delight; which continued them employed, untill they

they arrived at the palace gate, where many lighted Torches attended to conduct him and the Queen up the staires. Their supper being finished, with no more curious tediousness, than was convenient for the satisfying of the necessity of their appetites, sharpened by their past dayes exercise, a great part of the night was spent in dancing with the Ladies, according to the custom of the delightful Court of *Lydia*; in which recreation it was *Cassianus* Fortune, to entertain the beautiful Princess *Cloria*, as if the Gods intended him the opportunity; but whether his fancy only made him believe it, or that really he did utter something of that nature to her innocent eares; yet she seemed no way to be warmed by a Lovers flames: in so much as poor *Cassianus* became of a sudden as frozen as his Mistresses apprehensions; since he too feelingly suspected a denial in that sute, which perhaps his own fears would not sufficiently suffer him to discover to her understanding; And oftentimes too much desire renders us not only unfit to Act, but incapable to interpret: but however these accidental passages were either executed or entertained, *Eugarchus* and *Hyacinthias* unexpected retirement for the present, gave no more opportunity for a further tryal of either; which not only quickly separated the company, but retired the strangers into their several chambers: where *Cassianus* gave his eyes no leisure at all to rest, by reason of the disturbance of his own Turbulent thoughts, that drove him from one unquiet fancy to-another, until the more charitable morning invited him into something handsome sleep: but after two hours time, that also was interrupted by factious *Dimogoras*, who with a certain kind of storm in his countenance, entered abruptly his chamber, which freedom he ever

challenged, by reason of the confidence he had of his own Faithfulnesse to the Princes designs.

After *Dimogoras* had bestowed upon the Prince some few Complements belonging to his Dignity, as well as answerable to the season, he let him know he had some discourse of consequence to impart unto him, if he pleased to dismisse his Attendance.

Those being gone, and he invited by the Prince, to seat himself upon his bed side, for the more convenience, with a kind of melancholy and discontented Countenance, accompanied with a more hasty and rough delivery, he entertained his ears with this Language:

Although it be most true, my Lord, said he, that it is given out by the spightful Court, and suffered by the Kings injulice, that both my Nature and Desires, with a great deal of violence hunt after nothing but contentions, whereby I might come to have some eminent imployment in the wars; yet I take all the Gods to witnesse (who best are acquainted with my thoughts) that your entire Service is the chief motive of my designs, grounded also upon the consideration both of the present and future honour and glory of our Nation, now almost adulterated by ease and quiet, though principally betrayed to this lethargy by the pernicious counsels of *Polinex*, that for his own advantage and ends, flatters the King with the opinion of his conceived prosperity, as if never before the like Prince had reigned in *Lydia*; when as all *Asia* is scandalized at our government; for *Euarchus* by reason of this cold neutrality is esteemed, if not an enemy, at least wise no friend to any, but his own concernments; and so can never expect a faithful assistance from other States, if he were compelled

pressed by the same necessity to require their aid in any of his occasions, though a little for the present he seemes to swim in all successeful glory.

In this enchantment you see it is not onely possible for him to behold your Rights violated by the violent and (I may say) tyrannical oppression of your cruel enemies, with a most quiet if not insensible demeanour, notwithstanding all the ties of Affection, Kindred, and Religion, but in his own person is wrought in to so low a stupidity, and unworthy ingratitude, that he cannot be brought to bestow the least reward, or so much as any countenance upon men of spirit, fame, and desert; witnesse our small title of honour denyed *Lycius* the brave *Myssean* Commander, that so gallantly defended your cause against the King of *Armenia's* power.

This being sufficiently apprehended in your thoughts, I shall a little shew my own condition, that thereby you may the better judge of me and my designs; to this purpose I must tell you, that ever since I had ability to draw and handle a Sword, I have still vow'd my endeavours to the service of your Family, inso much as when a General was appointed by *Euarchus* Father with a Royal Army, after that unfortunate Defeat in *Mesopotamia*, to defend your Mothers Rights, in the Principality of *Iberia*, against *Tygranes* forces, I not only strongly urged the employment from the State, but accompanied the Souldiers in the Journey, until we were commanded away by the King; which however hath so seasoned my thoughts with the concernments of your Noble House, that I cannot but continue my Soul working, a just revenge in your behalf, according to the many injuries and indignities you have received: You must now give me leave to come nearer your interest for
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the present, neither wonder at my intelligence, since I do confidently assure you, that there is scarce a Court design how private soever, but I have knowledge of the resolution, by reason of my kindred and intimation amongst the chiefeſt of *Euarchus* Counsellors.

With this assurance you muſt know, that not many dayes ago there is arrived upon the Confindeſ of *Lydia*, *Anaxia* the old Queen of *Syria*, who being for ſome time beaten at Sea by ſtorms, as at land by tempeſts, procured by her own reſtleſſ Nature, that could not indure to ſit quiet under the ſecurity of her Sons protection, at laſt is come under the jurisdiction of *Euarchus*, as I believe, with an intention to raiſe as many troubles in this Kingdom, as ſhe hath for ſome years paſt in other places.

As I cannot deny her to be a Lady of excellent parts, and in her youth of extraordinary beauty, ſo by her birth ſhe is of *Corinth*, the only Daughter to the Duke of that Magnificent City, which procured her ſuch a liking by *Orſames* Father, after the divorce of his former Wife, that with much paſſion he not only made her Queen of *Syria*, but at his death appointed her the ſole Gardian both of his Son and Kingdom. This office truly ſhe managed with diſcretion enough, until the young Kings competent years, joyned with the ambition of ſome about his perſon, compelled her of a ſudden to leave her jurisdiction, yet not without ſo much unwillingneſſe and diſtaſte, that the lives of her principal Counſellers were ſacrificed by reaſon of the reſiſtance, and her ſelf for a long ſpace was confined to a Caſtle far from the Court, there to practice more obedience, ſince her active ſpirit was deemed to be inconfiſtent with the true and neceſſary ſubjection beſitting a Subject,

Subject, though still honoured as a Mother: However in that place, time and solitary conversations, taught her so much patience or dissimulation, that contrary to all mens expectations she bore this misfortune (so much esteemed repugnant to her nature and constitution) for some years, with an ordinary pacification, insomuch as the King was induced by reason of these outward testimonies of her absolute conversion, if not in regard of his own filial duty that could not but demonstrate compassion, to send for her again to the Court, not onely to enjoy the comfort of her conversation, but also to make use of her Counsels: Nevertheless she had not long moved in that sphere of glory, being perswaded by some factious dispositions, or over-suspicious and jealous in her own thoughts, before she began to shew evident marks of her inward discontents; For no sooner was the War broke out between *Orsames* and the King of *Egypt*, (kindled as't was said in part by her means) but she flew with all violence to the *Egyptian* Court, where she had been until this present, and perhaps would have longer there remained, not knowing else whither well to fly for shelter and protection, if she had not procured an imployment that at present suits perfectly with her appetite, which is to treat of a Match between the Princess *Cloria* our Kings Daughter, and *Osiris* the King of *Egypt's* Son; and this will no doubt be readily imbraced by *Enarchus*, since he may thereby hope the better to curb his Poor Subjects, who he knowes are rather aw'd by his power, than satisfied in his Affection.

Though *Dimogoras* seemed still to prosecute his discourse, yet *Cassianus* at these last words of *Cloria* and *Osiris*, felt himself as it were strook with thunder

der and lightening; insomuch as presently turning his face to the wall, he scarce gave any more ear to what he said: *Dimogoras* finding with some more observation, that the Prince had not onely changed his posture, but his attentiveness, imagined that the very apprehension of *Enarchus* disaffection to his person, in regard his interest had been so long neglected, was the sole reason of his sudden alteration, though the secret flames of the Princeesse *Clorias* beauty, was the onely occasion of his present distemper, considering the small probability was left him to obtain his desire, now a Match of such splendor was offered to her choice.

After *Dimogoras* had expected something longer what the Prince would do, he began this discourse; As I cannot blame your Nature much, said he, to be troubled considering the cunning diversions of your Uncle *Enarchus*, whom as I may say, seekes any thing in a manner, before your good and benefit, so of the other side it doth not become a Prince of your Birth and Extraction, to entertain dejectly these passages, when you may be assured that almost all *Lydia* will contribute bountifully to your present aid and assistance; wherefore I say, since this sloathful man is so far from being moved in regard of his natural inclination to ease and pleasure, out of those courses which his flatterers have bewitched him in, we must endeavour to disturb him in his Government; and the rather, for that we see he intends another effect of tyranny by a new alliance with the *Egyptian* State to maintain his absolute jurisdiction over the liberties of his people, though *Cloria* were more properly bestowed upon your self of the same Blood and Religion, than on a person whose Nation hath ever had designs pernicious to this Commonwealth;

wealth ; upon these considerations as it cannot be but thought convenient by the whole Kingdom to look to it's own safety, so by an unavoidable necessity we must have presently assembled the great Council, to put a sudden stop to these threatening events, that like ominous Comets seem at this instant to have direful aspects in our Horizon, blazing as it were destruction to all our happiness and prosperity ; and for that *Euarchus* will never endure to hear of such a remedy without meer compulsion ; we will attempt to stir up the rage of the discontented *Myssian*, over whom *Orsames* the King of *Syria*, hath such an absolute jurisdiction that *Euarchus* Authority will be very little esteemed in those parts, notwithstanding the legality of his Title ; and that King, as you very well know, cannot be but well pleased, to lay hold of any occasion, whereby this new intended alliance between the Crowns of *Lydia* and *Egypt*, may be blasted in the Bud, before it come to any mature ripeness.

As he was further proceeding in these exclamations against the Government, they were both interrupted by a Messenger from the King, not onely to know how the Prince had rested the night past after his dayes sport in hunting, but withall to desire his company in a ceremonious Courtship, he intended in person to bestow upon the old Queen of *Syria* his Wives Mother, though before the Officer could be sent for into the Princes Chamber, *Dimogoras* suddenly took his leave.

When *Cassianus* had humbly returned his thanks to the King, for his favour in inquiring (as he said) any way after his concernments, he told the Messenger, that however he could not be very apprehensive of his own danger, yet he must complain a little of his

his indisposition, which he feared would hinder him from rendering his Majesty that service he commanded, especially since the Ceremony was necessarily to be performed in so great an Assembly; rather his intentions were for some few dayes to keep his Chamber, as he said, to try whether that retirement would in any kind contribute to his Amendment, since he found his thoughts oppressed by melancholy fancies.

This quickly gave occasion to most of the Court to visit him, yet after those times when he perceived himself free from those Compliments (that he counted no other than meer disturbances) he would often dispute with his discontents in this Nature, which proved a great deal more uncomfortable, in regard he communicated his Thoughts to none:

O *Cassianus*, said he, to what dangerous rocks have thy fortunes led thee, not to be relieved, but by an inhospitable compliance, with those that perhaps more for their own ambition, than thy good, endeavour thy Unkles ruine? O gentle *Cloria*, is it possible that these thoughts in thy servants breast, can be any more concealed from thy knowledge, than from the Gods divinest Oracle? what greater indignity can be offered to the heavens, than to harbour in one heart, both Love and Treason, at the same time? consider, O unworthy *Cassianus*, with what affectionate protestation *Euarchus* hath hitherto entertained all thy concernments, which hath produced effects already, to the sending of an Embassadour to the King of *Armenia*, upon whose return, and not before, thou art to expect thy doom; and for this pretended love between *Cloria* and *Osiris*, perhaps the report is onely a bare fancy, grounded more upon

upon distasteful suspicion, than upon authentical information, since the old Queen of *Syrias* necessities gave her reason enough, to seek both retirement and reception, without any other design whatsoever: nay further, it may very probably be supposed, that *Dimogoras* interest or spleen, may administer occasions both of too much jealousy, and over-hasty action; wherefore *Cassianus*, be not thou ignobly the chief instrument of *Dimogoras* malice, and the onely stale to others ends. Thus he employed his time, whilst a brave Mask was preparing at Court, for the entertainment of the Queen of *Syria*; which in the interim filled every ones expectation, though it continued still *Cassianus* in his Chamber; however, as I said before, more visited than his thoughts desired.

For this great Triumph there was designed, a large Hall within the City of *Sardis*, supported with *Corinthian* Pillars of *Theban* Marble, erected at the first onely for the Coronation of the Kings of *Lydia*: it was beautified with excellent pictures of *Mosaick* work, enriched with Azure and Gold; the sides represented several delightful Landskips, composed for the most part of natural stones; and where in true representation any place wanted, the defects became supplied, with exquisite painting of most of the best hands of *Asia*: the floor was all wrought over with divers figures of Jet and Ivory, here and there also graced by other colours: when the night came of this glorious solemnity, *Euarchus* himself was mounted on a Transparent Throne, supported upon the backs of golden Lyons; over his head was the portraiture of *Jupiter*, much greater than the life, bestriding a huge Eagle, and holding Thunder in his hand, four steps below his feet lay as it were asleep,

a silver Unicorn and brazen Lyon, entangled with intermixt Roses and Thistles: on the other side *Hyacinthia* in a state of white Sattin, embroydered with the story of *Phaeton*, confused tumbling from his Fathers Chariot, as also wearing upon his youthful head *Apollo's* burning rayes, the onely period of his rash and foolish ambition; which by the cunning placing of certain Torches behind, seemed to give a kind of a natural light in the imagination of the earnest spectators; between them two degrees higher was placed the old *Syrian* Queen, in a chair of purple Velvet, befeeming the gravity of her age, wrought very thick with Flower de Lucies; the fair Princess *Cloria* sat at her Grandmothers feet, cloathed all in white, not more to shew forth the innocency of her Virginity, than to become the excellency of her perfections: no sooner had the Lords and Ladies of the Court seated themselves to their best advantages, for the honour of the one, and the beauty of the others, sparkling like so many Stars in the Firmament; but the Kings Officer, unto whom the charge was committed, gave present command that the shew should be discovered; whereupon a large Curtain at the farther end of the room by little and little lifted it self up to the uppermost part of the roof, behind which was represented a large Heaven, curiously figured by many shining clouds: under this seeming concave; was an artificial Globe of the Earth, supported by a huge *Atlas*, though stooping, who was placed in a vast Sea, from whence presently issued forth out of a Rock, seemingly compacted of Gold and Mother of Pearl, the God *Neptune*, drawn in a Triumphant Chariot by six *Dolphins*, and guarded by twice as many *Mermaydes*, who after some circumstance, began the first Anti-Mask, to the Musick onely

onely of divers Trytons ; which being finished, and Neptune retiring with the same Majesty he entred, the Gyant of a sudden shook the Globe he carried upon his shoulders ; at which violence the whole seemed to sever in the midst, from whence brake forth in a distracted manner, a multitude of several sorts of people ; some falling into the Sea, others climping upon the Rocks to save their lives, though a third company entered the room ; and made the second dance with extraordinary skill : after these were retired into their former habitation, the Goddesse Venus descended from a cloud in a celestial Chariot, accompanied by many naked Cupids, who with sweet voices and variety of instruments, saluted the King and Queens with this Ditty, to invite their spectators towards the beholding some Revels from Olympus, commanded by Jupiter himself to give their Majesties entertainment.

What wonder is't that we behold ?

both Love and honour crown'd With Gold ;

And ev'ry eye

doth sparkle forth a Deity.

Haste then my Char'ot to the earth ;

for day hath there a second birth :

You Cupids sing,

whilst I salute the Lydian King.

'Tis mighty Jove (great Prince) that sends

the gods below to be your friends,

when Triumphs seem

to entertain the Syrian Queen.

*But Hyacinthia, 'tis to you,
that Juno now begins to bow;
who smiles to see,
such mortals as your subjects be.*

*Hence then began you winged boyes,
and tell Olympus of our joyes;
Put out each star,
For here are lights outshine them far.*

This being ended, the Queen of Love again ascended the skie, when of a sudden the Heavens opening all the Gods appeared in several places, who insensibly were descended to the midst of the Stage, where they performed a Majestick or ceremonious march, and retired again in the same order they came, untill their Throne being something elevated in opposition to the Kings, they remained fixed, whilst by changing of the scen, from a kind of an enchanted Palace in a beautiful Island, issued many Knights and Ladies, there belike detained for some time, by their several Fates in Love Adventures, who passing two by two over a silver Bridge, they soon appeared in an orderly manner, upon the Theatre before the Spectators: where having finished also their Designs with other varieties, the rest of the night was spent in continuation of those magnificent sports: In the interim, poor *Cassianus* something weary of his own solitary discontents, had quitted his melancholy chamber, to give a little recreation to his thoughts; and to this purpose was retired into an obscure nook of the Hall, when at the same instant, he might see the Princess *Cloria* taken out to dance, which she performed with so spiritfull a Modesty, that her frequent Blushes, did no more than add grace,

to those skilful paces she was to tread ; which being finished, with a courteous smile she appeared to congratulate the youthful Masker, that had enjoyed the honour of her person in the pastime, whilst her dignity commanded him with humility, again to place her in her seat, according to the custom ; where her Princely Grandmother receiving her in her Arms, with many kisses, sealed both her approbation and affection, whispering also something in her ear, that caused *Cloria* at the same instant to cast down her Diamond eyes upon the ground ; with so bashful an innocence, that all the company might easily judge something was spoken to her apprehension, that she did not very well like, or understand.

But however, *Cassianus* who all the while beheld these passages, with a strong jealousy and violent Love, began to muster up his own discontents in a despairing form ; that rendred his imagination certain that *Anaxia* could intimate nothing to the Princes *Cloria*, but the offered Love of *Osiris* ; which drove him to so absolute a distraction, after many fruitlesse and silent complaints, that he resolves presently to leave the Court, and to retire himself to some obscure habitation, where he would only bewail his own misfortunes, or else procure a disguise that might admit him into *Cloria's* presence without suspicion, and by that means purchase a convenience to discover his own affection ; This no sooner was represented to his imagination, but it was passionately entertained by his fancy, so that laying hold on the confusion of the time, and imployment of the company, he instantly went into the Stable, after he had accommodated some necessary things in his Chamber, and took out his Horse to transport himself he knew not whither, though the night season

favoured so much his intention, that before morning
 he was a pretty distance from the City of *Sardis*, not
 easily to be overtaken by any search; and not many
 dayes after fell by chance into a most beautiful Coun-
 try, bespotted all over with several coloured fertili-
 ties, some Meadows, some arable grounds, every
 one intermixt with luxurious Vines, and bordered a-
 gain with flourishing Fields of standing-Corn of di-
 vers ripenesse, according to the nature of the grain;
 a River fair and winding, courteously contributing
 to each part of the Territory, a participation of its
 bounty. This seeming Paradise was bounded on all
 sides by an appearing Forest of even spread trees,
 that by their equal growth resembled so many Bro-
 thers of one birth, not consenting to the ambitious
 overtopping of any of their Fraternity; Certain o-
 ther lesser groves (within the compass) in several
 places adorned the superficies of the earth, affording
 a convenient shade for Cattel, and their pastors in the
 heat of the day; to retire for the ease of the one, and
 the rural delight of the other; where *Coridon* and
Phillis might meet freely, to enterchange their
 Love-discourses, and not be discovered by their too
 watchful Parents. *Cassianus* invited by the attra-
 ctive prospect of the place, and denyed to travel by
 the extraordinary heat of the day, made choice for
 his rest of a grassie Carpet, furnished exactly with
 many Embroideries of Nature, wrought by the God-
 desse chief skill, and dyed with the excellent tinctures
 of the most absolute time of the year. This habitati-
 on was covered over head with an arch Canopy of
 spreading branches, so thick woven together with
 green leaves, that *Phœbus* had no power to dart
 thorow his beams by any skill or violence: the gentle
 running of a chrystal stream hard by gave leisure for
 the

the clear water to conveigh it self by the secret Conduits of the earth to the roots of the trees, by which coolness they became more fruitful and flourishing.

These perfect delights also invited *Cassianus* into a kind of a necessary, if not pleasant slumber; however, scarce had he entered really into the quieting of his disturbed senses, but he was again summoned by his ear to a new distraction, since the sound of Musick call'd his eyes to behold the object that gave it birth, which soon instructed him of a certain troop of people that directed their steps towards the place of his abode, which gave him warning presently to rise from his Seat, to afford them the meeting, rather than to be surprized in his drowsie posture; but before he could approach to so near a distance, as to discover distinctly the company, he was encountered by a certain antient Forester handsomly clad in green, with a Horn about his neck, as the ensigne of his profession, who quickly saluted him with this Language.

Sir, said he, as it is not my intention either to inquire of your quality or business, since neither concerns our present affairs; so, of the other side, I cannot but attempt your Charity, because we have some need of it at this time; be pleased therefore to know, that the pleasant Country you are now in, is inhabited by three sorts of People, that is to say, Gentlemen, Foresters, and Shepherds; however, there is such a mutual agreement between them all, that neither envies the others happiness, or prosperity; the greatest using so gentle a familiarity to the meanest, that he is very well contented with his subjection; and the rather, because it is not lasting, since every year new Magistrates are chosen, by the free election of every one in particular; where none of

any sort is excluded from the government, which renders all satisfied; and in this course of rural policy, we follow our pleasures, and occasions; some in Hunting, others in increasing their innocent Flocks, and the rest in composing Poetical Verses, which on Holidiaes are sung to our unskilful Musick; where the best however, gains a certain victory that yields him content. In this manner I have lived for many years, being by some accident driven out of my own natural Countrey; having only one Daughter to be the Inheritrix of my Fortune; whose beauty, as I hope, rather than my substance, hath procured her two worthy Suters, of so just an equality in her eye, that though she be not at all ambitious of a choice, it being only my pressing care to see her married before I dye; she is determined to marry one of them: however, she is resolved not to make the election, nor I, because we are unwilling to hazard a faction in that quiet course we intend to continue; Wherefore it was decreed by the common consent of all, that the first stranger we met should be the decider of the difference, since this is the last day prefixt, by a certain rash Oath I made to see her Nuptials performed; so that by this means we take away all occasions of partiality, by making Fortune the Judge; for that both have sworn to stand to the arbitration, without mutiny or disturbance, and willingly assist in the intended Ceremonies, which are presently to be performed by a holy Priest in a little Chapel within the Forest; so that, if you please to take upon you this Office, you will not onely afford us a perpetual Obligation, but I shall prepare my self instantly to inform you of the qualities and condition of the Wooers, who are in yonder troop, that still as you see, do expect the issue of my desire.

Cassianus

Cassianus, after he had for some time dwelt upon the pretiness of the contention, and resolved to be a courteous Judge in their Love-quarrel, with a deep sigh, reflecting upon his own concerns, which this difference seemed to touch, returned him this Answer: Reverend Sir, although I am not ignorant, said he, that arbitrations, of what Nature soever, most commonly leave one party discontented, and therefore consequently is likely to procure me some dis-favour; yet to comply with your desire, I am content to take upon me the Office, not onely because I find the business pressing, by reason of your Oath; but also, hoping that the promises by the contenders made to each other, will be an occasion to keep me safe from the evil will of either. Then said the Forester, after he had thanked him for his courtesie, It will be convenient for me to let you know the state of the Suters, and their several pretensions, which I shall do shortly; with few circumstances, since the far-spent day will scarce else afford time to perform the necessary Ceremonies belonging to the marriage.

The two Contenders, said he, or rather Love-rivals, have for some years pretended to my Daughter, *Mantaina*, a young Mayd, whose bashfulness hath kept her back from entertaining either of their affections, although their persons and qualities may challenge an exact beauty, much more the fortune of a strangers child; but I that rather look upon the content of posterity, to fortifie me in this course of life, I have now taken on me, since I have small hopes to return again into my own Country, being kept from thence by the unjust power of my Mortal Enemy, a Story too long at this time to relate; although I am accusomvd to make known my Oppressions

to most Passengers that visit these parts, being violently ambitious to have her bestowed, lest my sudden death also might leave her to the world without a guide; and by that means endanger her honour and prosperity, have made choice of one of these two, whose laudable comportments and constant Love, have rendred them worthy of my regard, though neither can pretend to the highest Fortune, which suits well enough to my desires, since my intentions are to spin out the rest of my dayes in this privat, however contented course of life; and if we do chance to return again to our own, there will be sufficient to maintain us in that dignity we were born unto; in the mean time, it furs up a compassion in all sorts of people that know us, that I am forced in this manner to descend from that quality I have formerly lived in. But to come to the point: these two Contenders, the one is called *Fridius*, the other *Navarinus*; the first a Shepherd by extraction, though his Predecessors left him well enough to become a Gentleman; which hath also inflamed his mind with aspiring thoughts, scarce to be contained within the bounds of Rural Delights; the other a Noble-man born, but wanting means, hath subscribed his aims onely within the limits of a Country life, and in all probability is likely so to continue; which two in person are to plead their Causes before you their designed Judge; wherein, each is to speak what he can for his own advantage, to procure your Arbitration favourable, whereby he may become the desired Husband of my Daughter *Mantua*, sitting upon yonder rising bank, the prepared Tribunal of this controversie, to which purpose our company attend our approach.

Cassianus, although he was most willing to have en-

enquired further of the Foresters Condition, and adventures, yet finding the occasion could not admit of any delay, contented himself only with obeying his desire, which led them both to the expecting Troop; where having saluted every one in particular, they marched to the little hill, and seated themselves after this manner; First, the intended Bride was placed uppermost, clothed in a green gown, with a chaplet of flowers upon her head, carrying another garland in her hand to crown the Conqueror, accompanied by *Cassianus* the elected Judge; whilst the two pleaders stood of both sides, the one in the habit of a Gentleman, as the other appparelled like a Shepherd; and when Silence was three times proclaimed by a Cryer, *Fridius*, who seemed to have the prerogative first to speak, began in this sort to open his cause: Most worthy Arbitrator, said he, as I esteem your sentence the greatest that can befall me, since it must determine my chiefest hapinesse; so of the other side, I cannot but be most confident of the success, having so absolute a right in my pretension; though I will freely confess an equality of affection and prosecution: for 'tis apparent to all the Auditory, that from a mean condition, I have created in my self a Princes Soul, tending to the highest preferment, by which I have endeavoured to out-do my own Fate; whilst the life of my Adversary promiseth so little possibility of Advancement, that he hath pulled down his thoughts below his birth, to give way to Contempt, making himself lesse than Nature intended him, like fire buried in the Cinders, wanting Agitation and Effect, whereas the property of the flame should aspire: or rather resembling a Cow'd Lion, for want of action so proves a scorn to other beasts; for 'tis not a Lions skin, but his heart,

that ought to render him formidable. If the fair *Mantua* be given to me, said he, she shall (in all likelihood) possess riches and power, the two essential properties of greatness; and be, as it were, every day in a Lottery, ready when fortune will, to be exalted to the highest Throne of honour by new attempts; whereas, being wise to my adversary, she can never hope for more than she hath; scarce be assured of protection in what she now enjoyeth. All things endued with life, look upward, as he affirmed; when those that are mortified, fall alwayes downward, to their proper center, only fit to be trod upon: 'tis ambition, said he, that warms the blood, and renders it Noble, whereas sloth and want of desire causeth obstructions, which hinder glory, since the great Monarchs of the world could not have purchased to themselves fame or Empire, if they had not advanced their thoughts beyond their present condition. And last of all, he pretended 'twas the nature of beasts only to preserve what they had, but of man to seek what he had not; and for these reasons he desired the fair *Mantua* of the Judge.

When *Fridius* had ended, *Navarinus* with no less affection to the beauteous *Mantua*, but with more modesty stood forth to plead his cause, and said; that although he could not deny but by reason of his necessity, he had suited his mind to his ability, yet he held himself as deserving as his adversary, for 'twas not wealth as he said, but virtue that renders a man truly noble, which consisted more in tempering of ambition, than violently aiming at honours, since smiling prosperity was but the act of fortune, and a forced satisfaction, the true mark of fortitude; nor did his moderation, as he said, hinder the acceptance of preferment when conveniently it may be had, but
taught

taught him the better how to use it when it was obtained; for that man must needs be more happy that can content himself with any thing, than he that could be satisfied with nothing. Courage, said he, never shews it self better, than in over-comming ones own passions, nor is personal poverty a derogation, when it is not accompanied with a supine neglect, or a wilfull guilt, but rather a magnanimity, when it can be born with patience. A Diamond loseth not it's esteem for being set in Horn, or the Sun his influence because often obscured by accidental Clouds. A King is a King, said he, although he do not alwayes wear the Crown; and for the fair *Mantua*, he alleged was likelier to command his affections with felicity that sought a unity in the lowest course of life, rather than his rivals who could be in love with none, and he that is prepared to encounter with adversity, knows best how to use prosperity: however, said he, it is a higher act of glory to refuse honour, than to enjoy it; and for these reasons he claimed the Prerogative in his Plea, and consequently the beauteous Bride for his reward.

After that *Cassianus* had considered the Arguments, and natures of the lovers, he briefly delivered his judgement in these words, not willing too long to protract the designed Nuptials: *Fridius*, he said, had shewed more ambition, *Navarinus* the greater temper; the one might obtain the higher honour, but the other the longer security; glory seemed to attend the actions of *Fridius*, content the humility of *Navarinus*; the one promised more hope, the other less fear; the one was endued with a Princes soul, which of necessity must put him on to dangerous and hazardous attempts, the other more resembling a lover was likeliest to continue the unity of affections with-

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out separation; *Fridius* was fitter to be a Monarch, but *Navarinus* to become a Husband; wherefore he judged the beauteous *Mantwina* to the latter for a Wife, and the Crown she carried in her hand to the former as a Conqueror, which extremely pleased the whole Assembly, only discontented *Fridius* could not be perswaded to assist at the intended Ceremony; alleging, that since he had lost his Bride in *Venus* quarrel, he would endeavour to regain his reputation in *Mars's* profession; and presently took his leave of the Company, to put his intencion into execution, with the general dislike of them all, having before the arbitration faithfully promised the contrary.

But however, this abrupt department of *Fridius* displeased the joyful troop, yet they resolved to prosecute their intentions, and to that purpose instantly rose from their seats, and in an orderly procession directed their course towards *Hymen's* Temple, not far off, built of white Marble, inclosed within a *Cypres* Grove, where the Priest attended to perform his Office, clothed in a saffron Robe; who taking lovely *Mantwina* by the hand, after having a little instructed her concerning her duty, he led her to the high Altar, where she was solemnly espoused to joyful *Navarinus*, whilst in the mean time the Roses of her fair Cheeks seemed to get the absolute victory over the pure Ivory of her face; which being finished, the rest of the day was spent in such entertainments as were fit for the season, where the Muses seemed to have a principal prerogative.

But *Cassianus* not long contented with those sports, since he was in a manner weary of himself, soon retired into a solitary walk within the Woods, hoping to enjoy in contemplation some part of those pleasures that the two Lovers expected; where he had

had not remained scarce a quarter of an hour, crossing his Arms, and often casting up his sorrowful eyes to heaven, as if from thence he only attended relief; but he was interrupted by the old Priest with this salutation, who belike had noted some storms in his countenance.

Sir, said he, finding your posture no way suitable with the time, and my profession also being retired from those exercises, I thought it not altogether preposterous to attempt your patience, to see if my conversation might give you any satisfaction.

Cassianus seeing himself saluted in this manner by the reverend Priest, was not only forced to leave his sad contemplation, but returned him this courteous answer: Truly Father, said he, as my years might pretend very well to the delights of youthful company, yet being so happy as to enjoy yours, I shall think I have changed much for the better, since I may gain double, both by instruction and example.

That said the Priest, will be according to the impressions you are inclinable to receive, and the ability of me that should inform; but as for the first, as I cannot any way doubt, since your capacity hath been sufficiently demonstrated in your judgement upon the late controversie; so of the other side, concerning the later, I may make some question, whether you are not more able to teach than be instructed by my discourse: however, it being my practice and office to speak to the erring world, of their obligation to their Creator, I shall apply my self willingly to that subject upon any occasion you shall give.

Of which number said *Cassianus* I desire to be one, if you can think your words will not be lost upon so ignorant a person as my self, since many will not be per-

perswaded, that either there is a God at all, or that that Divine Power hath any regard of man, for that he suffers often times intollerable injustices to prosper without punishment.

Sir, said the Priest, as I will not dispute the tolerated evils, since the mystery is lockt up in his secret bosom from our mortal eyes; besides that our own indulgence to our proper concerns, often blinds our understanding, that we discern not what is right: So of the contrary, it is more apparent than the light that there is a God, Maker and Ruler of all things, besides nature; since the Sun, Moon, and Stars, with the hugeness and extraordinary effects of them all, governed in an orderly course without confusion, plainly shew an infinite Power, and supernatural Providence: for else, how could the Ocean be kept so constantly within its own bounds, as if over-aw'd to obey, when it is apparent that millions of Rivers, for many hundreds of years, have and do continually run into the Sea, without any increase at all, which according to the course of nature, must have long since buried the whole earth in a watery tomb, to the absolute destruction of all living things; besides, innumerable other examples to confound the stupidity of that doubt?

I grant, said *Cassianus*, a supreme Maker, Providence, and an infinite Power, that first created, and now regulates the disorderly rage, or growing increase of natural things, which else of necessity, must at last multiply, to almost an infinite mass, not to be contained within the worlds compass, but whether this immense essence imploy it self in so low a consideration, as to think upon us and our affairs, must rest a question.

Why not said the Priest? when it is most certain,
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and by you confest in general terms, that the least grass of the field cannot flourish, dye, and spring again in it's due season, without the assignment of this Power and Providence, since it is not within the capacity of all the Monarchs of the earth, to adde growth of the bredth of one single hair to the stature of any Dwarf, or within the skill of all the Philosophy in the world, to make a flower without Earth and the Sun, that give it natural being; much more, if this goodness afford such favour to senseless things, giving them life and lustre, will have a greater care of man created in so high an excellency, since all other things are but meerly ordained for his use and subsistence.

No doubt Father, said *Cassianus*, but he hath an eye upon the preservation of mankind, more especially than other Creatures, since he is endued with understanding in some sort to know his Creator; but however it is not necessary, that that knowledge proceeds from something that is immortal and eternal.

From whence then, said the Priest, doth this science of knowing God come? either it must be in the body or in the soul; in the body certainly it is not, since most Creatures are furnished with greater excellencies of sense; therefore it must be in the soul that hath a different faculty, which makes man capable of discourse that a beast is not, because it lacks the use of Reason to distinguish; for fowls as we see by experience do not want Organs to utter words; witness Parrats and other Creatures, who by custom only are taught to speak, although they themselves know not what they say, or can answer reasonably to any question demanded them.

I confest, said *Cassianus*, that mans soul is only capable of understanding, since it doth alone judge

reasonably of things; but whether this soul be mortal or no is the doubt, since his Creator may have given him that privilege in this life, and yet not eternally hereafter.

Certainly, said the Priest, as it might seem an impertinency in God to have created in man a reasonable soul to be perpetually extinguished after a time, having made the world and all things in it meerly for his use; so of the other side, it had been an apparent injustice, to have afforded the Subjects greater privilege and happiness than their Lord, which by consequence must follow, if man had not some prerogative to expect in the other life, enjoying less felicity in this; for it is most apparent, man only takes no constant content here, his mind being still full of perturbations, having alwayes a kind of longing in himself, to have that which he hath not, and a wearisomness of what he possesseth, let his condition be never so seeming prosperous; whereas all other Creatures are never perplext with the fear of change, or desire of alteration; so that of necessity man must except something to countervail the miserableness of his condition, since it is his meer knowledge that renders him unfortunate, and the want of it makes Beasts happy.

Truly Father, said *Cassianus*, as I speak but others Arguments, and not my own thoughts, so I cannot deny but your reasons have much confirmed my belief.

No, no, son, said the Priest, it is only a sensual stupidity that detains men from entering into so clear a consideration of the other world as they ought, proceeding from their lazy and indulgent nature, that is glad to be flattered either with hopes of living long, or repenting when they please, which makes them
frame

frame arguments against reason and their own Consciences, because they are unwilling to take pains, and loath to forego the present fruition: But if I may not be thought to trespass too much upon your patience, I will repeat some plain Verses against the alluring vanities of present delights; and the rather, since the Muses are esteemed principal entertainments amongst us in our Pastoral Recreations.

With all my heart, said *Casianus*, with the addition of my best thanks for your courtesie, which made the old Priest draw out of his Pocket a paper that contained these lines.

What's the profit of every past delight;
but to envice a-new the appetite?
The best applause of men is as a feather,
tost to and fro by various weather;
Which some perhaps may catch; yet when 'tis got;
oft proves so troublesome, it pleaseth not.
The poor Hermit within his private Cell,
though worldly accidents were all the hell,
Enjoies a life by much, more void of Care
than doth the most commanding Monarch here.
The Sensualist in his excess doth find
a kind of weariness it leaves behind;
For all that we can see; or do; or taste;
though they content a while, gluts us at last;
Or in their own defects do often perish;
before they give us time their sweets to relish.
Nature her self cannot endure to be;
confin'd unto a rule of certaintie;
As in her choyssest beauties here she's seen
to vary oft her shew; not alwayes green;
The heart of man is angular, the earth

being round, must not afford a constant birth
 Of such delights, to fill each little crook,
 but with a longing aim 'twill farther look:
 The Soul can only penetrate the skie,
 and truly contemplate the Deity;
 In which will be possess'd a silent mirth
 that cannot be express'd by Pens on earth,
 So free, so sweet, so full, so wondrous high;
 and most of all crown'd with eternity.

When the Priest had read these Verses, and was preparing himself for another Discourse, the better to fortifie his reasons, the antient Forester with many of the Jovial Company, suddenly interrupted his intention, pretending the season was neither fit for melancholy or retirement, and earnestly desired *Cassianus* that he would honour the Lovers with his presence; as he said, at a small Banquet, accommodated for the solemnization of the Feast, which however it gave the Prince some discontent for the present, so to be hindred from a conversation he more delighted in, in regard of his sad thoughts, yet he could do no lesse than comply readily with the request, it being so civilly intended; and so went with the Forester to taste of those dainties prepared for the Nuptials, which entertained them until night: neverthelesse, the communication began to take such deep root in the disturbed bosome of *Cassianus*, that he was not only determined for a time to put off his resolution of changing his habit, whereby the more commodiously to return into *Lydia* undiscovered, to folicite his Love under another form, to the fair Princeesse *Cloria*, but also felt inclinations in his Soul to leave the world, since so many hazards and vexations depended upon the prosecutions of humane designs

signes; and in this posture of uncertain opinion, he continued many dayes, still conversing upon all occasions with the holy Priest, though his variable fancies could not bring forth any stable resolution. But the Forester having absolutely finished all the Nuptial Ceremonies, and every one of the Company being again settled in their severall vocations, he invited *Cassianus* one day into the Woods; to delight himself with the entertainments of hunting: however, the Doggs being at a fault, and *Cassianus* desiring to know something more particularly of his Fortune, the Forester under a shady Oak began this discourse for his satisfaction, after he had made some Apology for the circumstance of a story he was to relate; As it shall not be needful, said he, to let you know my name, for that I desire to have that concealed, since otherwise my Enemies might have opportunity again to disturb me in my quiet rest which I have endeavoured to enjoy under this simple disguise; so of the other side it is most necessary that I tell you I am a Noble man of *Syria*, (because from thence ariseth the cause of my unjust banishment) where the King now reigning called *Orsames*, was left an infant by his dead Father, under the protection of his Mother named *Annaxia*, & so remained until the laws of the Kingdom gave him the full power of the government into his own hands, which notwithstanding the high-spirited Queen, with a certain Favourite she had, not bearing with any patience, was forcibly confined to her Chamber, whilst her servant lost his life in the resistance. Thus she continued her imprisonment until the Kings duty, & the policy of one *Philostros*, that belonged unto the Queen, procured her again her liberty: But *Annaxia* not yet content with this privilege of being released, began to cast about in her active mind, how she

might be also interess'd as formerly in State Affairs, and to that purpose imployed *Philostros*, as a crafty Instrument to compass her desire; who in a short time so well plaid his Cards, although for his own advantage, that he not onely became an intimate Counsellor to the King, but put to his own Mistress clean out of favour with her Son, whereby he might have the better opportunity to manage all Court busineses himself, since he knew she could not but obscure, or at least interrupt his greatnesse, with the absolute power he intended. The Queen whose courage could not easily be suppress'd, as her wit was not to be limited, began publickly to cast all her affection upon her second Son *Orestes*, in requital as she thought of the Kings disrespect to her person, the onely heir apparent to the Crown, since *Orsames* his brother had no issue at all, and to that purpose not onely gave him free liberty, but powerful assistance in his Love and Courtships he had long pretended to a young Lady though a stranger of great birth under her protection, called *Alciana*, whereby he might be rendred more powerful to oppose *Philostros* proceedings, as well in the ample kindred of the Lady, as in the hope he should give the kindom of a plentiful posterity by her: but the subtile favourite not alone apprehending the growing danger to his Master by the foresaid greatness of his Brother, since all mens eyes were cast upon him as the unquestionable Successor, *Orsames* not being like to have children, but willing also to exercise his spight against the Queens plots out of Ambition not to be out-witted by a Woman, posselt the King privately with a jealous opinion of the dangerous consequence of such a conjunction, himself being without issue, since the people would be more apt as he said, to look upon
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his Brothers established house, than his own present government: When as long as he was unmarried the eyes of the multitude would be diverted to other confused Objects of Pretenders, not absolutely settled upon any one: And this was sufficient, with the Addition of *Philostros* Counsel, no lesse than an *Oracle* in the belief of *Orsames*, to cause him to send for his Brother, and taking him aside into a privat Gallery, began to expostulate with him in this manner.

Orestes, said he, I know you cannot be so ill natured, as to forget the Affection I have alwayes born you as a Brother, nor do I believe the world is not sufficiently perswaded of the care I have of you as your Prince, which two tyes must draw from me both for your good and my safety, rather a discreet admonition, than a commanding injunction, since my desire is it should be so interpreted and executed by you: know then, that I understand, there is a privat affection growing, if not already gone too far, between you and *Alciana*, a match I conceive neither convenient for your state, or the welfare of *Syria*, since you are not onely a great Kings Son born, but likely to be inheritor of my Crown and Dignity, which also would distaste the whole kingdom, when your thoughts should be perswaded, rather to make election of a stranger than one of your own Country, since there are so many beyond her, worth your regard: but to avoid further expostulation, & to make tryal of your obedience, it being the Laws of *Syria*, that the next Heir should not marry without the consent of the Prince, that you presently lay down your affections, and entertain no new ones without my privity. This I conjure you to perform, both out of the love you ought to bear me as a Brother,

and the reverence you ow to me as a Prince, without examining further my reasons, if you mean to enjoy my smiles, and not undergo the heavy weight of my indignation, and left him also at the same instant in a Sea of confusion, to converse only with his unruly imaginations, which continued *Orestes* for some time, as it were frozen in his despair, until having sufficiently tired himself with diversities of fancies, sometimes complaining again his Brothers cruelty, & otherwhile cursing *Philostr* policy, at last resolved to carry the news to his almost lost Mistress; where, after he had with many sighs and more tears laid open the Tyrannical Sentence of the King, as he called it, they both cast their pittiful looks at one another, as if they meant to blame themselves for the misfortune which for the present parted them, like two that went to their graves, never more to enjoy the comfort of each others coverstation: But *Orestes* not being long able to bear the torment of this rigid injunction, flew to *Anaxias* affection for a redress, whom as he conceived, wanted neither power nor will to assist him in his extremity, and she as quickly with compassion carryed his complaints to *Orsames*, fortified with all the reasons the prerogative of a Mother could use, however the absolute power of *Philostr* beat down with violence her diligent endeavours, pretending the safety of the King, and the prosperity of *Syria*, was to be preferred either before a Brothers foolish passions, or a Mothers preposterous desires, which only left the enraged Queen to mutiny against her Sons seeming disobedience, finding how much her own power was lessened, by the growing greatness of him she had preferred to maintain it. But notwithstanding *Orsames* consent could not be won to the continued loves of the young Couple, yet *Orestes*

As by the help of his witty and indulgent Mother, not onely was encouraged still to prosecute his settled affection to *Alciana*, but procured means oftentimes to meet his Mistress secretly in a garden belonging to the Queenes Lodgings; where their passions caused them for the most part to burst forth into these expressions: O *Alciana*, said *Orestes*, how unjust are the Gods to debar us from that conversation that Lovers of meanest condition enjoy with abundant liberty? how happy should we esteem our selves to be, said he, if the open Fields were made privy to our vertuous intentions, and the Innocent Birds called as Witnesses to our Frequent Vowes to sing *Epithalamions* to our marriage Feasts? O the unhappy state of Crowns so much coveted, and yet brings with it consuming fires of all content, kindled by the raging flames of restless suspicion, the destruction of Friendship and Charity. How fortunate should we be, dear *Alciana*, said he, if a poor Cottage were the present habitation for our persons, and a coarse bed the resting place for our Loves, rather than be thus fettered with the Golden Bands of vain Titles (falsely called privileges) that imprison us from our chief delights, and onely happiness? Then the fair *Alciana* with tears instead of expressions, would oftentimes signifie her approbation of his reasons; and then again break forth into these passions of wishing her self rather a Shepherdess than a Princess, so she might freely possess her Beloved *Orestes*, accusing *Cupid* for want of power or pitty, to lett them suffer so undeservedly, also complaining bitterly against the remorseless rules of State and Policy, that imposed such thralldom upon Lovers against divine and humane laws, then returned to a fresh carriere of weeping, as if she meant to send up her grief to heaven by water to procure redress, though

Almost in the same moment she cast down her eyes and hands, as if despair had beaten back her prayers from thence when she considered the power of their adversaries: after all she continued in a sad silence, untill more than hopes of the Queens assistance transported both their thoughts again to be confident of fruition without danger or inconvenience. And thus these two mournful, though sometimes comforted lovers, would often spin out the tedious hours of the night without rest; much less sleep, till *Phæbus* himself was forced to give them warning to depart, who like valiant champions made good the field untill the uttermost minute, notwithstanding their careful servants divers times sounded the retreat for fear of a surprize.

But however they endeavoured in this manner, to enjoy some part of their loves, like people in a barren Country, that beheld a far off a fruitful Island, and could not get to it, by reason of the interposition of the Sea, though some thing delighted with the sight only, yet crafty *Philostros* that had alwayes his eyes open to those designs he had a mind to compass, quickly became informed of their nightly meetings, and almost as soon carried the discovery to his Masters intelligence; wherein he alleged, that the Queen her self was the principal instrument, that procured the young Couple such frequent opportunities, and therefore with more care and violence as he said to be prevented, so that an Act presently past in the Council, to have the Lady sent home to her own friends; whereby she might be absolutely separated from *Orestes* Courtships. Which suddenly being put in execution, it was a question whether amazement or despair plaid the greater part in the lovers bosoms; however, the Queen retaining yet her antient courage,

rage, not only sharply expostulated the business with the King her Son, but when she saw she could not prevail by any perswasion, gave private Counsel and permission to *Orestes*, to leave the Court, whereby to prosecute his marriage with his Mistress *Alciana* in her own Country: This you may believe he wanted not diligence to execute, when the authority of a Mother complied with his own violent desires; so that secretly stealing to the Castle of *Alciana*, he instantly gave intelligence of the approaching Nuptials, by the invitation of all the Princes of her kindred, to assemble at an appointed day, to be Noble witnesses of the joyful Triumphs intended.

But *Philostros*, finding himself likely to be outstript by a womans wit, began to conjure up all the spirits of his politick brain for prevention, and fell upon an attempt to corrupt a certain intimate Favorite belonging to *Orestes*, not only with the promise of a great Dukedom in the Country of *Syria*, but also to bestow upon him a rich Heir in Marriage, the better to maintain the Title; These glorious baits I say so far prevailed in the Favorites ambitious and false nature, that he was content to sell his Master to buy the purchase; so that the two Lovers more open to Love than watchful of Treason, the night before the intended Ceremonies should have been performed, being privately at their devotions in *Venus* Temple, according to the prescribed custom, they were both separate from one another by a selected company of Souldiers, sent to that purpose by *Philostros*, which suddenly carried *Orestes* from the sad sight of his most dearly beloved *Alciana*, who had only opportunity left her to bewail her misfortune, whil't her betrothed husband in the interim, was conveyed into a strong Fort, to be safely guarded untill the Kings plea-

pleasure should be known, concerning the disposure of his person; however his unworthy Favorite paid the deserved debt due to such a Treason, for although *Philostros* performed with him punctually the agreement, in giving him both the Dukedom and the Heir, yet the very day of his Nuptials, he caused him to lose his head for his reward.

Nevertheless poor *Orestes* neither received liberty from his imprisonment, or easement of his grief, which caused him for the most part to sit with his Arms cross, looking up at the heavens, as if he accused them for his sufferings; And his strained passions sometimes would violently burst forth into imprecations both against his brother and *Philostros*; calling *Orsames* Tyrant, and his Favorite the Center of deceit; from whose wickednesses as he fancied, proceeded streams of disturbances, that drowned the whole world in confusion. Such discontented language did his distempers break forth; which however rather tired himself, than wounded his enemies; whilst in the mean time, *Philostros* plaid with him like a huge fish intangled with an angle, too great suddenly to pull out of the water; letting him by degrees work himself out of breath, that at last he might deal with him according to his pleasure; since there is no better remedy against violent contention, than to seem to strive with it, which renders it like an enlarged flame less furious: Even so it fared with this Prince, that having tired himself by his overmuch passion, seemingly at last came to so underhand a patience, that he appeared fitted for those impressions, which *Philostros* had a mind he should seal; and to that purpose employed one *Dion* an ancient Noble-man of *Syria*, intrusted formerly by *Orestes* father in many weighty employments, to perswade him to pass such Acts, as
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his policy thought most convenient for *Orsames* security, which was publickly to disavow that private contract, made between him and *Alciana*, since the opinion every one had of that marriage, gave not only hopes of a new posterity, but a certainty also of assistance by her kindred upon all occasions.

Wherefore one day this *Dion* watching the time when *Orestes* was in his best temper, and his thoughts appearing most calmed from extravagancies, entred into his Chamber with such a humility, as became the distances of their persons; And after a while spent in divers discourses, the better to disguise his intentions, he began with him in this manner.

My Lord, said he, as it was my happiness, during the life of your admired Father, to be not only witness of his glorious actions, but as a Servant to his commands, spent my youthful years in the advancement of his fame; whereby he became lov'd at home, and fear'd abroad, and that settled this mighty Monarchy of *Syria*, before almost torn in pieces by domestick factions, in the high State of felicity and honour, he left it to your virtuous Brother, though an Infant under the protection of your Mother; who enjoyed the Tuition, as long as the Laws of the Kingdom would give her leave to govern; however it hath not pleased the Gods as yet to bless him with posterity; so that by all probability the succession is like to fall upon you, if your own actions do not divert and change the minds of those people you are to rule, either by discontenting your Brother, in that obedience you ow him as your Prince, or by giving the Subjects an opinion, you rather aym passionately at your own private pleasures, than their future good, in chusing a wife of a strange Countrey, when you may have so many at home, as if you disdained the
election

election meerly because you were out of love with your own Countrey; especially when you know the laws of *Syria* absolutely forbid, the heir apparent to take a Consort, without the approbation of the King, which intirely absolves you from that contract between you and *Alciana*, for which only act you are now detained in prison, not only to your own discontent, but to your Brothers displeasure, since he is about new Counsels, how he may settle the succession upon other pretenders, for that your stubbornness seems to render you incapable of the Empire. Perhaps you will allege that the rules of Religion command you inviolably to observe the sacred promise of marriage, accorded between you two before the face of heaven; unto which I must answer, that all compacts made in the prejudice of an others right, are altogether to be esteemed invalid, of no force; and not to be persisted in without a double offence, the one to the party injur'd, and the other towards the Gods, who have expressly enjoyned the contrary; so that if at first you did commit a sin of disobedience to your Brothers will, by attempting to take a wife without his consent, contrary to the known ordinances of *Syria*; let at last your sudden repentance extenuate the offence, whereby you may be reconciled both to heaven and earth; lest the justice of the one, and the vengeance of the other overtake you. Again, whereas you may think, that the perfections of *Alciana* are not to be paralleld, (which however is no sufficient plea to render you obstinat) I answer, that oftentimes our fancy out-does our judgement, which makes that become excellent in our sight, that we have only brought our mind by some accident passionatly to desire; and therefore will lay before you this consideration as a refuting example,

example, whether you can possibly believe with a clear apprehension, that the small circle of *Alciana's* body, can contain so much beauty, as the large extent of all *Syria*? in which compass you may be your own Carver, with envious contention, who may be the happy object of your choyce: With these words he ended his discourse, expecting his reply with a respectful silence; which presently brought forth many considerations in *Orestes* troubled bosom, and after some time these expressions.

Must the sacred Lawes, by which our souls are united in one before the Throne of Heaven, be thus abrogated by humane power? shall Policy triumph over Religion? and Kings exalt themselves above the Gods, not fearing to contend against their decrees? must *Philostros* wisdom be esteemed above *Hymens* Rights? can pitiless man behold the perfections of divine *Alciana*, and not melt into compassion? All which he uttered with other extravagancies of the like nature, which gave *Dion* a desire to take his leave for the present, hoping another time to find him in a more moderate temper. But *Orestes* perceiving his intention, and reflecting in some sort upon the gravity of the person that gave him the advice; of a sudden took him by the hand, telling him it was not kindly done to leave him in his extremities, since there was a hope, as he said, after a little consideration, he might be wrought to credit any perswasion that intended for his good, and would be the prosperity of *Syria*: This gave *Dion* so much satisfaction, that he not only staid with him for the instant, endeavouring to fortifie his reasons with new arguments, but in a short while plying him continually with importunate solicitation, at last procured his
absolute

absolute promise, to perform what acts his Brother should command him to the disanulling of the former contract between him and *Alciana*. When *Dion* had gained thus much upon the Princes inconstancy, with this joyful conceived news, he went to congratulate the itching ears of the great favorite, that from time to time expected the issue, who esteemed it a most supreme dishonour to have any of his plots fail in their success, and to this purpose a day was appointed soon after for a publick Assembly, who were to be witnesses to the whole Kingdom of *Orestes* intentions, to the content of many, but wonder of all, since the example was esteemed extraordinary, as the persons were eminent, which gave *Orestes* liberty to take his recreations where he pleased; so that one time walking under a row of orderly set Trees in a Park belonging to his Lodgings, being accompanied only with his now more quieted thoughts, since his love *Alciana* began to be blotted out of his memory, by new considerations that entertained him, he was saluted by a youth, whose face appeared beautiful, as his looks innocent; only a large patch upon the side of his cheek, with his hair carelessly covering a great part of his forehead, rendered him by much less lovely, than nature seemed to have intended him; however, his eyes sparkled a kind of perfection, that gave an admirable lustre to the rest of his secured countenance, which again was augmented by the ruby of his lips. *Orestes* taken with the delight of the object, could not be but curious of the business, therefore with more attention he gave ear to his words, and the rather, for that the boy told him, he had not only a message, but a request to present unto him, if his patience or charity would give him the hearing, and with that wept, as if a sad Story were the subject

subject of his discourse. But after he had a little dryed his fair eyes with a handkerchief he carelessly held it in his hand, he told him his name was *Phalaris*, an unfortunate Cousin of *Alciana*, since her late retirement into a Cloyster, had left him to the world to seek entertainment in his service after having been robb'd and wounded by certain Theeves. *Orestes* hearing the name of his almost forgotten *Alciana*, seemed suddenly stricken with some fatal Omen that accus'd him of perjury and ingratitude, for which deservedly he merited to be punished; wherefore he seated himself upon a bench in those walks, with his Arms folded one within another, as if he meant to weave his thoughts an intricate labyrinth of discontent, his eyes being cast up to Heaven, as it were to penetrate the very bosom of the Gods, to be informed of the depth of his offence; Thus he continue glasing his sight all the while with the troubled water of his sorrowful tears, untill the youth himself with the sadness of his contemplation, could not chuse but accompany his passion with a few distilled drops of Cristal from his own beautiful eyes, and withall by way of interruption told him, that although he intended his preferment in his sute, yet he was not so unmannerly, as to procure his vexation thereby; but rather if he thought his unworthy service might prove any inconvenience to his more glorious employments, he would most willing notwithstanding his kinswomans kind recommendation (whom he conceived had had some interest in his breast) desist from further prosecuting his intention, how profitable soever it might prove to his unfortunate condition. O uncharitable *Phalaris*, replied *Orestes*, be not so unjust as to misconster my present passion, or to entertain the least sinister opinion

opinion in thy yet innocent Bosome; that any desire; from the fair *Alciana* can be less commanding to my grieved soul, than as a decree enjoyned me by the powerful Heavens, which must not be disobeyed; no gentle Boy, said he, I do not onely entertain thee; but constitute thee my dear and onely Companion to talk nothing but *Alciana*, to liken every flower we can find in our soft conversation to the several perfections of beautiful *Alciana*; and when we have discours'd whole Summer dayes upon that delightful Theame, thou shalt gather them together in a gay Nosegay, and carry them to my Love, as Emblems of her Perfections and my Constancy; informing her of all the sad postures poor *Orestes* undergoes for the absence of his dear *Alciana*; nay, more, assure her, that the Sun shall sooner lose his light, than he the bright remembrance of that Beauty; which onely captivates his heart, for Death by the force of spiteful Tyranny may well separate our mortal bodies, but our pure Souls shall ever live together united in the Heavens, triumphing over all humane injuries and violence.

But *Phalaris* having obtain'd as he thought what he came for, would not expostulate more with him the reasons of his passion; onely he desired to know if he had a desire to entertain him according to *Alciana's* request, whether it was not necessary to accommodate himself otherwise for his service, since he had some friends not far off that he was assured would assist him to that purpose? No already dear *Phalaris*, replied *Orestes*, the commands of sweet *Alciana* work not upon so dull a Subject, as to admit of the least protraction; besides, thou must, said he, be a speedy and active Messenger to divert her thoughts from that killing resolution of retirement, and by that

that means release *Orestes* from a world of torments, which he should suffer in being perpetually banished from the sweet conversation of his most dear Love: With this, taking the Boy by the white hand, he led him into his own Lodgings, enforming every one that he was a neer Kinsman to the Princess *Alciana*; his passion not being able to hide that which his discretion should have concealed, since his Enemies wanted not suspicion to keep over him still watchful spies to observe his actions, knowing his determinations to be variable, as his Nature was violent; In conclusion he made the dainty *Ganymed* not only his daily play-fellow, but his night-Companion; which two seasons for the most part were spent in discourses concerning *Alciana*; Bnt the time approaching for his publick negation of the contract between him and *Alciana*, *Dion* again was sent by *Philostros* to put him in mind both of the hour and the circumstances; whereupon *Orestes*, contrary to his expectation, like an enraged Lion, fell upon him with this Language.

Thou wicked Man, said he, dost thou believe the Gods will suffer thee to go unpunished for this attempt? must the sacred Laws by which the two Souls of *Alciana* and my self are united in one before the Throne of Heaven, be abrogated by humane power, as I formerly told thee? can that Devil *Philostros*, whose onely Spirit thou art, retain in his uncompassionate breast, still constant intentions of this impiety? or will my unnatural Brother for ever punish me, and protect his malicious favorite without end, against Right and Reason? Is all Religion absolutely banished from every humane heart, and nothing succeeds but unconscionable interest and cruelty? cannot the benefits of my dead Father, or the sufferings

of my dead Mother at all work thy nature to any pitty? and banish from thy pernicious thoughts, those malicious treasons thou intendest against Love and Goodness? wherefore I say, get thee out of my sight, or by the Gods I will make thee a quick sacrifice to the infernal furies.

Dion had no need of any Counsel at the present to avoid these extravagant intemperances; however, with respect enough he took his leave, since his wisdom thought it better to temper his passion, than provoke his choler; and yet instantly he carried the news to *Philostrus*, with the addition also of his opinion; that certainly it was the frequent conversation of the newly entertained Kinsman to *Alciana*, that altered the resolution of *Orestes*. *Philostrus* considering this strange and sudden change, could not chuse but be of the same belief, and therefore called a Counsel of his own privat friends, wherein after some consultation, with the approbation of the King, command was given to an Officer of the Court, with a strong guard to repair the next morning to the Princes Lodgings, there by force to separate him from his young Favorite, and then to convey his person to some place of less liberty, where again he might be treated withall about his former promise; a judgement given as might be thought against all morality and pitty; but the support of a Crown will not be regulated by any compassion; tears being only fit for the condition of a penitent, no way becomming the dignity of an enthroned King, whose dazeling glory must not behold the dark misfortune of any other condition. This resolution, I say, was put in execution with all expedition and vigour; for the Captain of the guard, a man of a rough nature, ha-received his commision, at the time appointed went

up

up into the Chamber of *Orestes*, and finding him a bed, though his diligent Servant *Phalarinus* was newly risen from the warm sides of his dear Master, where he had reposed the night past; The Officer in a cold complement shewed him the strict commission of the King his Brother, desiring him without resistance or delay he would prepare himself to an absolute obedience, which else might turn to his greater prejudice. But *Orestes*, not taken with a dejected sorrow, though he too much apprehended the injury, presently flew out of his bed, like some furious wild beast, that feared to be deprived of that prey, which his own hunger had lately procured; and so seized upon his naked Sword that lay near him on the Table, vowing to make that weapon the instrument of his just revenge, if he laid the least finger upon his dear *Phalarinus*, with intention to separate him from his sight and conversation. The Captain, whose providence had before placed the guard at the stairs foot, to be ready at his command if there were occasion, suddenly called them to his assistance, who with all violence obeying the injunction, in an instant encompassed *Orestes* about, neither regarding his person, nor having respect to his naked condition, whilst in the mean time poor *Phalarinus* altogether distracted, between love and fear, flew with all his power amongst the confused weapons to defend *Orestes* by his own hazard, from the threatening and appearing danger, where presently he received a cruel wound in his tender sides, which soon discovered it self by his sudden sinking to the ground, ready to pay his last duty to Nature, as his best blood for a ransom to redeem his Master from his captivity. But *Orestes* notwithstanding was presently surprized, and led away out of his sayling sight; which *Phalarinus* beholding, more

be moaned then his own approaching destruction, blaming rather the injustice of the merciless Guard for oppressing *Orestes*, than for killing him.

Anaxia the Queen finding this extraordinary oppression of her Son, and not being admitted to his presence, to afford him any manner of relief or comfort by her Motherly conversation; as also conceiving her own person in some hazzard, by the example of such a violence, of a sudden making an escape from the Court, put her self into the protection of *Sorastros* King of *Egypt*, whose Empire seemed then to overtop the *Syrian Monarchy*; which ingendred an ambitious enmity between the two mighty Princes, that afterward broke out into an open War: whilst in the mean time, *Philostros* having now *Orestes* at his absolute mercy, in having given his Brother *Orfames* too much suspicion by his late inconstancy, endeavoured again to make him subscribe to the divorcement of his pretended Love *Alciana*, as well to debar him from a foreign alliance, that should give nourishment to any rebellion; as also to have the better conveniency to furnish him with some wife of his own choosing, whom as he thought he might direct in the moderating of *Orestes* actions: Within a short time both these projects had so good success, that *Orestes* did not onely publicly disclaim from all interest in his former match, but was content to be ruled by his Brothers pleasure, in the election of a new Mistress; so that *Philostros* having by his diligent polices brought about his purposes to this contented issue, seemed to have the power of making the present for his choice, by reason of *Orfames* favour, since the youthful Prince could not long be detained from entertaining his thoughts with some Courtship or other; wherefore he resolved to design

sign for this service or Court-stratagem, one of his own Kindred, although he determined not be seen himself in the action; by which means he supposed he might become not onely the absolute master of them both, but have another interest in the succession of the Crown, if *Orsames* should die without children; and the fates seemed to favour his purpose, for at the same time there lived at the Court a young Lady called *Orbella*, Sisters Daughter to *Philostros*, whose beauty and estimation appeared in a manner to be paralels, for that her Unkles authority did but give her the one, as liberal Nature had bestowed upon her the other; and both made way for the Princes Courtship, since as he thought, it was the duty of every youthful spirit, to make love when the occasion was offered: so he believed his endeavour, placed upon such an interest, was a subject could not but please *Philostros* in a high kind, who now began to become his new Master, for that his own inconstancy had made him forget his old Mistress. But however, witty *Orbella*, as well encouraged by her own excellent parts, as counselled by her Unkles admirable wisdom, received his addresses rather with a civil carelessness, than by a passionate acceptance, shewing in all her entertainments, as she knew him to be the Kings Brother, that commanded from her a reverence due to his person, so she was in a manner certain of her own virtues that obliged her to keep his love at a distance; however, to pluck more eyes upon her self, she would daily adorn her natural handsomeness with some quaint fashion, which her authority soon made a pattern to other Ladies of less estimation; by this means intending covertly the Prince might be more delighted with her beauty and handsomeness, since variety is the most pleasing object of

humane sense; and the rather, when he should see every one admired her perfections; As, I say, by these pretty cunnings *Orestes* at last become absolutely in Love, whereas his first thoughts perhaps were onely to have a Mistress to court, since it was esteemed the chief business of the place, to exercise themselves with such employments.

And thus inconstant *Orestes* being again engaged in a new labyrinth, *Orbella* plaid with his passions to her own commodity, according to her Uncles politick directions; sometimes inticing his Love to a stronger confirmation by a multitude of invented oaths; and then again would bring him back into a kind of despair by her seeming neglect of all his protestation, telling him oftentimes in careless smiles of his late Mistress *Alciana*, who could not, as she said, but claim some prerogative in his affection, since not long ago he had shewed such violence in her behalf, in so much as he was ready rather to have lost his brother, and the whole Kingdom of *Syria*, than to be withdrawn from the constancy of his profession. Besides, she not seldom let him know, she could not but be so foolish as not to judge of the difference between her self and *Alciana*, by reason of which she had more cause to doubt a dangerous surprize in his intention, than that he meant any way to make her the companion of his thoughts, since he had already quitted one so far beyond her in worth, and beauty. Whereupon *Orestes* would reply; that as the Moon appears fair, until the Sun by his greater splendour darkens her light, so the beauties of *Alciana* was in some esteem in his apprehension, until he beheld *Orbellas*, most admirable perfection, that obscured the others lustre; And as diversity of other stones, said he, seem rich at first sight to common beholders

holders, not being fully instructed in their value, so when the Diamond is produced by the skilful Jeweller, with shame they are advertised of their own error: So was it with me dear *Orbella*, said he, before I was acquainted with your excellencies, which now make me distinguish of the others wants: But *Orbella* had intention to intangle him beyond disingagement, before he should receive from her the least assurance of acceptance; To this purpose, one day when *Orestes* came to visit her in her chamber, she not having stirr'd abroad, by reason of some small distemper a cold had procured her, or at leastwise so pretended by her cunning, in a reserv'd, though civil discourse; putting on a more solemn countenance than ordinary, she told him that his addresses appeared something scandalous to the eye of the world, as she was informed by many of her best friends, whose admonitions she was bound to observe; and since his quality and her condition could not suit together by way of marriage, she desired he would demonstrate so much his regard towards her honour (which in charity and religion, as she said, he was not obliged unto) as altogether to forbear her company, unless in those publick assemblies that could not be avoided; this she assur'd him was the noblest part of Affection, he could use to a poor Maid, whose reputation was her principallest dower, since she most esteemed it.

Orestes hearing such a Request, so much against his expectation and liking, told her, that as the Gods had set some disparity in their persons by the fond opinion of the flattering world, yet that conceived distance was abundantly supplied by the admirable perfections of her rich mind, in which she was to be valued before the greatest Empresse; however my Lord,

said *Orbella*, dressing her countenance with a deceitful smile, whereby the better to colour her intention, although I might flatter my thoughts with the seeming reality of your professions, and by that means take all for granted, you say, yet certainly the King your brother can never be brought to be of the same opinion, without whose consent, you know, our loves will be to no purpose, since the strict Laws of *Syria* deny you to be your own chooser. Again, said he, is this unjust and Tyrannical Law urg'd to my miserable disadvantage? No, Sir, said she, it is neither tyrannical nor unjust, but was wisely ordained at the first, to bridle the dangerous passions of such young Princes as your self, that might else marry to the prejudice, if not overthrow of all *Syria*. I do not believe, said *Orestes*, that there was ever made such a Law; or if there were, I will have it blotted out to all posterity, since it not onely proves an obstacle to my Love, but is against the very constitution of the Heavens. No, no, my Lord, said she, you cannot; rather therefore endeavour to give your brother satisfaction in your choice, who no doubt will provide better for your honour than your self; leaving these vain professions, which I know proceed but from the mouth of a youthful Courtier, that rather than want a subject to work upon, would play with a feather, or take a baby for his Mistress; and with that offered to retire into her privat Cabinet, telling him she could not but be jealous of her own Modesty, in that she had been too long in privat discourse with him.

Orestes although for the present he took his leave, yet being debarred, as he conceived the freedom of ordinary addressees; however he noted alwayes in *Orbella* a Carriage that rather wisely endeavoured to avoid scandal, than demonstrated disaffection to his person,

person, since she knew how to play her Cards to the best advantage; of a sudden through the whole Court divulged his violent Affection, swearing by all the Gods, he would die if he enjoyed not *Orbella* for his wife; but this soon came to the ears of crafty *Philostros*, who having, as he thought, absolutely intangled the wild Beast he meant to take; one day he drew *Orestes* aside in a certain room, not only near the Kings lodgings, but where frequently he was accustomed to pass to such Recreations as daily he entertained himself withal, where he began to expostulate with him after this manner.

My Lord, said he, as I have ever employed my best endeavors for your brothers service, and I vow by the immortal God also for your good, though perhaps otherwise interpreted by the false suggestions of others; so I beseech you, since there hath been lately an intire reconciliation between your self and me, you will not seek under hand, not only to wound my honour, and destroy my house, but absolutely to take from me my greatest happiness, your brothers favour, by pretending love so preposterously or deceitfully to my poor Niece *Orbella*; for as I know she is altogether unworthy to be your wife, so of the other side, I must confess, I shall ever esteem her to be too good to be your Strumpet; therefore, I must intreat you either to forbear your fantastical, and not credited Courtships, or I shall be forced to discover my thoughts to the King, who I hope will use his just authority to restrain you, as well as satisfy me; and with that held his peace, earnestly looking him in the face, as if the business required a speedy Reply. But poor *Orestes*, thus unawares surprised by the wise Favourite, knew not what answer to make; yet at last breaking out into many extravagant Protestations, the King, according

cording to his use, came that way, as they were earnestly discoursing together, who finding that rather passion spake the language, than temper, would needs be informed of the difference; by which means *Orestes* new love came to his knowledge, so contrived of purpose by *Philostros*, that he might not appear himself to be the Author of his own Design, supposing the issue would follow the intention, since the greatest difficulty appeared in the Discovery; for that probably *Orsames* was easily to be perswaded, that it would seem too great a Tyrannie, to deny his brother his youthful affection in both his elections: which accordingly so succeeded, for *Orestes* violence so overprest his brother, with the crafty instruments *Philostros* had set about the King, not appearing at all visible in the business, that *Orsames* was not only soon won to his consent, but a solemn day was appointed for the Mariage Feast, to be performed with most glorious Ceremonies, according to the Dignity of such eminent Nuptials, wherein the Kings Heir, and the Favourites hopes, were to play their parts upon the Stage of *Syria*, to the wonder of all *Asia*.

However, though seemingly these industrious preparations drew on towards the joyfull Consummation, attended by the longing desires of the two Lovers, yet the Destinies had a hidden determination, to raise an Obstacle against the Triumphs intended; for Prince *Austratus*, brother to the wronged *Alciana*, not only provoked by his own dishonour, but exasperated by his sisters injuries, with a mighty Army entered suddenly the Confines of *Syria*, vowing to interrupt the joy, or revenge the injustice; and in that manner endeavoured with the fire of destruction, to light ominous Torches to the Bridal Feast, which were only to be extinguished with blood; so that of necessity,

sity, the Mariage was to be deferred, since the King in person was resolved to stop the torrent of this threatening stream; besides, most of *Alciana's* kindred were assembled in the Enterprize, to accompany *Austratius* in his valiant design, conceiving themselves also interessed in the quarrel; which in honour could not dispense with *Orestes* absence (although love seemed to plead, by all the Gentle Laws of that Profession, his excuse) as also, from being a Commander in his brothers Army. In this manner these two threatening forces approached each other; delay seemed too passive a quality to practized in either of their intentions, which soon brought them together to exercise their enraged spleens; that procured an encounter, no less Horrid than Courageous, since one side contended Revenge, Shame, and Valour, against Oppression, Policy, and Power: However, in conclusion, poor *Austratius*, having beheld the slaughter, in a manner, of all his Souldiers, in defence of his person, himself still fighting for his Sisters right, was taken prisoner by his enemies.

But notwithstanding this glorious Victory, that seemed absolutely to cast the fair *Orbella* into *Orestes* bosom, and he prepared with the open arms of his imagination to embrace her; yet as he was at Dinner one day in his Tent, encompassed about with multitudes of Nobility, he was suddenly saluted by a dainty Damsel, about the Age of thirteen; who with a confident bashfulness, not only presented him a Letter, but told him she had also a Commission to wish him to read it aloud; which if he refused, she would publish the Contents thereof, to his greater dishonour. Whereupon *Orestes*, with a disdainfull smile, to be so tutor'd by an innocent Girl, although he could not but be a little amazed at the adventure, in a
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kind of hasty passion broke open the Seal, and found the Lines speak this Language :

Orestes, Let it suffice that the hand that wrote this Letter, pretends to as high a prerogative in Blood as thy self, though the name of the person be unsubscribed for some Reasons; however, it is sufficient thou art the Injurer, and I am ordained to be the Revenger, unless thy Valour defend thee from the Punishment, by protecting thy self bravely against thy enemy; since I am an ominous Messenger sent by the Heavens, to call thee to an Account concerning the Injuries of wrong'd Alciana, whose dying soul was by accident breathed into my bosom, after she had made a large relation of her own Sufferings, and thy Perjuries: Whereupon I vow'd thy destruction, or my own; Wherefore prepare thy self to meet me the day after to morrow, ready Armed, in the Island between the Town, and the Army, where there shall be no partiality in our Weapons, although Cowardly thou mayst pretend it in our Qualities; unless thou wilt procure thy certain destruction by some other Stratagem I shall invent, if thou refuse this equal way of Trial prescribed thee, to thy eternal Infamy.

Farewell.

After that *Orestes* had read this strange and resolute Letter, in the presence of all the Company, who wondred at the accident; some with jeering smiles, and others with distracted looks, he retired into the innermost part of his Tents with an intention to ask counsel of his Troubled thoughts, what answer he should make to the Challenge, and fain he would have flattered himself with Reasons in the behalf of his approaching Marriage, to have denied or avoided the

the combat, being stung with the sharpness of the injury he had done to the fair *Alciana*: but his honour, as he believed, called him to a more noble resolution, especially since the summons was delivered him before the eyes of all the brave spirits of *Syria*, who would have been glad of his least shew of want of courage, since their ambitions could not chuse but envy the dignity of his person, that so much outshined their; wherefore, in a little space, he came out from his secret Chamber with this answer, that although the appearing distance of their qualities might serve as a sufficient privilege to make him deny what was so rashly demanded, yet his own eminent courage, as he said, could not dispence with the reason; and therefore was determined to meet his unknown enemy at the time appointed, where he made no doubt but to punish him for his bold attempt; and so conducting the little Virgin some way out of the bounds of his own lodgings, with order she should be safely guarded through the Army, returned to make preparation for the appointed combat; where long he had not remained, but the King came in person to chide his Brother for undertaking so desperate an attempt without his licence; and withall laying his present commands upon him, not to proceed farther in the execution.

But these blasts were too weak to shake the settled resolutions of *Orestes*, who chose rather to dye, fighting with an unknown enemy, than live disgrac'd among his intimate friends; so that, falling down upon his knees before his Brother, he desired him, either to suffer him to vindicate his own honour, since he had undertaken the combat, or he himself would be the author of his own destruction, to let the world see he was no coward; which at last forced the King
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to give way to his passions, though *Philostros* was very sorry to hazard his Nieces happiness in so doubtful a contention.

Although *Orestes* in heat of blood had consented, as I may say, rashly to fight with one whose name was not so much as known, however he was supposed to be some Prince of *Alciana's* kindred; yet being retired privately into his own secret Cabinet, and the dead of the night raising fancies in his fearful imagination, began to expostulate with himself after this manner.

Is it possible the Gods can suffer me to scape unpunished for those injuries I have done to the more than wronged *Alciana*: much less can I hope for victory in this unjust combat; can her sweet soul look down from the skies with any eye of forgiveness, when she shall behold me shedding more blood of her Noble Family? is it not sufficient that she already hath made her self an innocent sacrifice to redeem part of my wickedness; but I must with new slaughter disquiet the rest she now deservedly enjoys in the Heavens? O rather let me dye by mine own accursed hand, wherein I shall perform an act of justice, since I am only he that hath offended; than hazard the death of one who brings with him as little guilt as the dead *Alciana*. No, no, I will not be a mortal enemy to him that professeth so absolute a friendship to my dear Love; but rather confess my self twice overcome, both by his goodness and valour, so shall I appear to the world more just, though less fortunate: And for *Orbella*, with all her beauties and honours, I shall return again to her great Uncle, who can give her not only protection, but dignity; Whilst I will again wed my self to dead *Alciana*. These were the imaginations that entertained the
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thoughts of *Orestes*, during the solitary season of the night, untill the chearful Morning not only gave his mind some courage, but brought into his Chamber the gallant Commanders of his Brothers Army; who breathed nothing into his sad soul but inflamed desire, and certain victory, that again something settled his despairing thoughts: so that presently he gave order for his Arms; and whilst he was beholding divers of sundry sorts, *Philostros*, accompanied with many Officers of the Court, desired to speak a word privatly with him; and when all were retired but they two, he told him it was his Brothers pleasure, and his own advice, that he proceeded no further in this combat, unless his adversary would discover his name, since it was judged an indignity to the Crown of *Syria*, for him to hazard his person against an obscure Enemy; to which the Prince hastily answered, with all his heart, so he would again receive the protection of his Neece *Orbella*, and his brother suffer him to retire into some obscure place, where he might continually bewail his injury done to the dead *Alciana*. This Answer you may be sure was a sufficient bridle to detain the Counsels of *Philostros* from more perswading *Orsames* against the Combate; since the issue as he believed would either produce the glorious Mariage of his Kinswoman, or the sudden and honorable death of *Orestes*, whereby he should be secured by his friendship, or out of fear of his inconstancy.

The time being come for the meeting of the two Champions, *Orestes* was mounted upon a pyde horse, which very lively represented either the changeablenesse his disposition, or the variablenesse of his Fortune. His Armour was light skie-colour, painted over with an artificial shade that was procured by the Suns Eclipse. His Caparisons were cut into the form

form of a beautilful Phenix, the Saddle forming the body as the two wings figured out the sides, which were composed of several coloured feathers, so that the crupper making the tail, the whole bird seemed to flie as the horse moved, bearing the armed Knight in the ayr; and the raines of the bridle being neatly contrived into the likenesse of flames, as it were kindled from the bit (contrived of material resembling fire) seemed to aspire upwards with a consuming intention. In his shield was painted a ship tost upon a stormy Sea, onely set forth with this Motto, *Still uncertain*. But scarce had he entred the List, when at the other end appeared his Adversary in a white Armour, set forth with the story of *Theseus* and *Ariadne*; the Ornaments that covered his horse were made into the form of a Cypres Grove: for his device he bore the picture of *Dido* Queen of *Carthage*, crowned with a Willow Garland, without any Motto at all, but her name: six seeming Virgins carried those staves he meant to imploy in the encounter, which not onely gave a delectable, but also a sad aspect to the whole company, since by the sight, both the innocency and the injury of *Alciana* was described.

But *Orestes* being taken with a new apprehension far above the other Spectators, before he began his course, in a soft trot rid towards his prepared Enemy; who contrariwise seeing him coming, not having any mind to entertain his addressees, retired almost as fast back; but finding his importunity was not so easily to be avoided, sent one of his little Messengers to tell him, that if his intention was to use words before the Combat, he found not his disposition any way inclinable for discourse; wherefore desired him with courage to speak onely the Language of the Sword, which,

which, of the two, was more proper for the season. *Orestes*, having received this sharp reply, and being summoned by the Trumpets to the encounter, quickly made his spurs teach his horse his duty, and in the course carried himself with so much force and dexterity, that at the first course he bore his adversary to the ground with the point of his Lance, who had either unfortunately or unskilfully mist his rest; yet the Knight appearing ashamed at the fall, presently started up, and with a kind of flourishing bravery, drew out his Sword, telling him (though his much halting shewed his courage was better than his person,) that notwithstanding the Gods flattered him with a seeming advantage, yet he should quickly find by the sharpness of his weapon that his dissembling Fates did but smile him into destruction; and although he were on horse-back, and his self on foot, that inequality should not defend him from the speedy punishment he merited, according to the request of dying *Alciana*.

Truly, said *Orestes*, as I am extremely unwilling to entertain the quarrel any further upon these terms; so of the other side, I could be very well content to have laid down my own life as a ransom to have redeemed hers, by much more innocent. O false man, said the Knight, dost thou believe I can be won by thy dissimulation to abstain from a just revenge, since thou hadst so much cruelty to torment her for only loving thee; no traitor, said he, I hope the Gods are more righteous than to suffer poor *Alciana's* wrongs to go unpunished, and thy wicked self live prosperously, triumphing over her destruction, which would be an example too pernicious, whereby the deceived world might be encouraged to the like crimes? I confess my fault, said

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Orestes

Orestes, to the fair, virtuous, and injured *Alciana*, so the combat may be left off bearing that title. Canst thou think, said the Knight, thy cowardliness shall buy off the deserved reward of thy villanies? be assured it shall not upon any condition. *Orestes*, not being able longer to bear the oppression of his words, hastily alighted from his horse (scorning a partiality in honour) and soon made his Sword dispute the rest of the arguments; choler beginning to banish from his remembrance the wrongs of dead *Alciana*, though it was a debt which his soul was bound to pay ever to her memory: This brought on so sharp a contention on both sides for a pretty space, that the Spectators entertained the prospect with some wonder, but more compassion; untill the robustious fury of *Orestes* Arm, had made many passages in the Armour of the strange Knight, for wounds, if not death it self to enter in at, that quickly varnisht the outside with the crimson tincture of his own blood, to the sorrow of all the beholders; however they wished *Orestes* victory, yet they could not desire the others slaughter. Which the Prince also perceiving, desired him not obstinately to continue his own enemy, when his seeming adversary so much coveted his good; especially, as hee said, since the quarrel was not personal, but accidental, containing an others right, who could not be satisfied in the conquest; and with that courteously retired, with an intention to give him not only breath, but redemption: yet had he scarce spoke the words, but the Knight with overmuch bleeding fell down in a sound; which caused *Orestes* to flie to him with the wings of pitty: wherefore pulling off his Helmet, to give him some refreshing ayr, he suddenly discovered the countenance of his
once

once dearly beloved servant *Phalarius*, thought formerly to be slain in his defence: Truly, this was a fight so much beyond his expectation, that he stood like one wholly converted into the dead image of sorrow, being confounded so intirely with amazed grief, that it took from him all effects of compassion, not stirring from the place where he stood, but with his eyes only, to give redress to that misfortune, which his unwilling hands had occasioned; and therefore suffered the poor youth to lye still, weltring in his own blood, untill the King and some of the rest of the company came in to congratulate his victory. Who finding dying *Phalarius* to be the subject of his conquest, it quickly turned all their expected joys, into an unexpressible sad contemplation, one looking upon another as if they had seen an horrid vision; Till the beautiful youth, (though in that posture) opening his fainting eyes, and perceiving many about him, first casting them here and there feebly, to search out some object they desired, at last, with a voice that scarce had power to speak any thing but death, brought forth these sad words from his feeble tongue: I thank the Gods, said he, that afford me yet time, before I perpetually close my dying eyes from the worlds light, to relate these few passages, whereby the constancy of my affection, and the truth of my unspotted love, may appear at the best prospect: then know, my Lord the King, you my dear and only husband, that here lies before you the unfortunate, but more unworthy *Alciana*, though happy in this, that I am a willing sacrifice to expiate the sins of those that hindred my felicity; which, my Lord *Orestes*, you will easily believe, when you shall be informed, that I did but borrow the name of *Phalarius* (since there

is none such) to seek you out in prison, where you were detained; when also you know I serv'd you diligently, according to my weak power; and in that manner, enjoyed your conversation chastly, befitting the pureness of my entire love, as your own knowledge can testifie, untill the last fatal and deadly separation, when I received a wound in your defence, a testimony sufficient how well I desired to love you; however not mortal, as it then appeared; for one of the Guard repairing again into the Chamber, after you were departed, more compassionate perhaps than the rest, finding me ready to yield up my afflicted soul into the hands of my Maker, presently conveyed me into your warm bed, where I rested all that day, till towards night that there came to my assistance an old woman belonging to the lodgings, who applyed such remedies to my hurt, that in a short time I was able to transport my self from that habitation to another more obscure; where I remained (every one thinking me still amongst the vestal Nuns) untill my Brother *Austratius* overthrow assured me of the impossibility of enjoying you as my husband; especially since I heard you had given away your love to another Lady, though far more worthy than my self, yet altogether unlawful whilst I was living: so that I was determined to make an offering of mine own life to redeem the offence, and by my death to set you free, that you might with all liberty enjoy your election, which you seemed to like better of; and therefore invited first that hand to kill me, (for truly I had no hope in the victory) before it was given in marriage to another; by that means dissolving the former contract, to render the second prosperous. Then turning her self to the King, she desired him to be so graciously good, as to

to suffer her Brother again to possess that Territory, which her had parted withall to purchase his ransom, since his loss proceeded only from that natural affection which he bore her as his Sister. But by this time her short and panting breath gave evident signs to the whole company, that death summoned her to the last part she was to play in the Tragedy ; wherefore, forcing her self a little against her almost consumed force, wherein love seemed to be most couragious ; she lifted up her pale face, begging a kiss in that manner with her trembling lips, of her dear, yet unkind Lord *Orestes*; and after two or three deep sighs, which shewed how unwilling she was to leave him, yielded up her pure soul to the purest Heavens, there to be made a Star for her virtues, whilst every eye and heart was full of grief, as if the world had been already buried in her loss ; *Orestes*, who for a long time had frozen himself to her dead body, of a sudden started up, as from his grave, and with distracted looks, casting his eyes about him, at last fixt his view upon his naked Sword that lay on the grass, coloured yet with his Loves blood, to which object he flew with such violence, as if he meant to revenge her death by the destruction of all mankind, since she chiefly deserved to live of all others : but finding no subject, more justly as he thought, meriting his passions, before any could prevent his intention, sheathed the naked blade in his soft side, and presently fell down with the stroak ; which accident quickly brought the care of the whole company to his assistance, having no leasure given them to mourn the sad fate of *Alciana*, since a neerer danger threatned them. However, the Gods, who either looked upon the succession of *Syria*, or *Orestes* repentance,

tance, hindred the stroak from proving mortal, by a fortunate slip of the weapon, so that instantly being carried out of the Camp, to a more convenient place of rest, the Physicians quickly advertised the King, of the security of the wound; which gave a contented encouragement to all the Souldiers to assist at the funerals of poor *Alciana*, whose body was interred with all the sad solemnity the time would permit, in that very place where she lost her life; and afterward by *Orsames* command was crected to her memory, a stately Tombe over her grave, which spake this Epitaph:

*These Marble piles upon the stop discover,
The Silver urn of an unhappy Lover;
Since too much love untimely caus'd her die,
Though want of love now makes her bloodless lie.
Heaven ty'd the knot that did the Arm provoke,
And earth would have unty'd what caus'd the
stroke.
Yet Heaven was more just that brought her ill,
Than earth that striv'd for to preserve her still;
Each did invite her to the Nuptial tye,
But both debarr'd her from posterity.*

Also the Lady *Orbella*, hearing of this Tragedy, imagined her intended mariage would not prove otherwise than ominous, since the prosecution thereof had produced such lamentable effects; & therefore of a sudden retired from the world among the vestal Nuns, in the City of *Damascus*, where she is
re-

resolved to imploy her youthful years (notwithstanding the strong invitation of her Uncle to the contrary) only in holy devotion , to the general commendation of all *Syria*. But for *Orestes*, although he found a speedy remedy for his voluntary received wound , by the care and industry of the Kings Physicians, yet he could not so soon procure ease in his troubled thoughts for *Alcina's* death; & therefore in the first place, began freshly to importunate his brother, to the accomplishment of her request, whereby *Austrasius* might again be settled in his antient possessions : Nevertheless *Philostros* spightful counsels prevailing against all other persuasions, and many other of the chief Nobility of *Syria* having lost by the same oppression their hereditary Offices, which they enjoyed from their deserving ancestors, occasioned new troubles in the kingdom; for the Lords looking more upon *Orestes* probability, in being next heir to the Crown, than *Orsames* government, wanting Posterity to fortifie his Title, of a sudden raised Forces, to joyn with their discontented, not only to put them anew in possession of their rights, but to contend with the Favourites greatness; alleging for their defence both the Queen *Anaxia's* banishment, and their own injuries; by which endeavours, I say, in a short while after, they led an Army into the field, to try the fortune of a battel with *Orsames* power; thinking it better to hazard their heads in a doubtful issue, than to subjugate their honours to a certain ruin: But in short, being totally overcome in a bloody conflict, *Orestes* in person was taken prisoner, his Lieutenant General beheaded, as a publick example, and my self, with many others, were forced to flie, to save our lives; which not only gave a full period to the design,

but occasioned my retirement into this private habitation, where I have for some years lived, though in a low condition, since I prepare my thoughts against all the flattering hopes of return, as long as *Philostros* sits at the Stern of *Syria*; whose disposition I know to be implacable, as the King his Masters affection unchangeable, grounded upon these considerations, that as long as his Favourite is safe and powerful, himself with security may freely enjoy his own pleasures; and to that purpose hath lately granted *Philostros* a new guard, to defend his person from such dangers as his over-great interest, & absolute bold execution, threaten; especially, since not only the States of the Kingdom are highly offended against his pride, but the common people become exceedingly burdened by his taxations; besides, *Sorastros* King of *Egypt* (unto whose protection the old Queen *Anaxia* is fled for refuge) knowes it is his principal design, absolutely to ruin his mighty Monarch, who therefore labours his destruction. And this Sir, said the Forester, is the unfortunate story of my banishment, and others oppressions; in the relation of which, I fear me, I have too much presumed upon your patience; though I can the more easily excuse my presumption, for that the Chase yet affords no other entertainment: & with that rose up with an intention to find out the dogs; neither long had they traversed the copses, ere their eares were advertised, that their hounds hotly pursued again the almost lost Deer, that continued the sport untill the night scarce gave them convenience to find their way home.

Cassianus thus being every day more and more delighted with this pleasant conversation, began by little and little to wean himself both from Court ambition,

bition, or desire of glory, and consequently thought not upon his solicitation for the restoration of his Country, hardly harbouring in his quiet bosom any appetite of Revenge of his Fathers conceived injuries; and lesse reflected upon either the turbulent persuasions of factious *Demagoras*, or the more gentle friendship of noble *Eumenes*: however now and then, he could not choose but cast back his thoughts upon the remembrance of the Princess *Cloria*; notwithstanding in such a dark way, as lights are accustomed to appear in a thick mist, that could not ere long but be absolutely extinguished, when there was not desire enough in his intentions to give it nourishment. Wherefore, the better to continue his thought in these delights, he sold some few of his smaller Jewels, to furnish himself for a Foresters life; and also cut away much of his beautiful hair, to render his person more proper for the Woods; besides his felicity seemed to increase, not onely by the solitary conversation with the noble huntsman, but also by the more knowing instruction of the holy Priest, which totally banisht out of his remembrance at last, the whole representation of *Cloria's* excellencies; In prosecution of this intention, one gentle Morning, not being at all threatned by a lowring sky, *Cassianus*, accompanied only by his own thoughts, that seemed altogether innocent, leading in his hand a dainty couple of Greyhounds, to be provided for any chase that should accidentally present it self to his view, issued out into the green and flourishing Forest, where long he had nor entertained his expectation with the hopes of discovery of some beast, that might breath his nimble Doggs; but he perceived a Knight armed lying upon the ground, under the large protection of an old Oak, whilst his Lance rested by the side of the tree.

tree. But *Cassianus* not being certain whether death or sleep gave him the posture, thought it an act of necessary Charity, to be something inquisitive after the manner, if not occasion of his lying there; so that approaching at such a distance that the noise of his steps must needs be heard if he were alive, the party suddenly lifted up his head; with this *Cassianus* had a full view of his face, and by that countenance quickly knew him to be his Friend *Eumenes*, whom he had left behind him the Court of *Lydia*, which caused him to start back with some violence, as if ashamed of himself to be discovered in that habit; or afraid that his Companion should chide him for his late unkind escape without his privity; however again, encouraged by his disguise, he made a stand, untill *Eumenes* earnestly looking him in the face for a pretty space, at last with a deep sigh brought forth these words.

Can *Cassianus* think that any dissimulation, is of force to hinder the effects and power of perfect friendship, which hath eyes beyond the solid'st obstacle? No, no, *Cassianus*, said he, make a true confession of your fault, that you may receive speedy satisfaction. These words caused the Prince with trembling steps, like a sorrowful penitent to come neerer to his friend, until at last he seated himself by him with this Language: O *Eumenes*, said he, it was Love, onely Tyrannical Love, that deserves to bear the blame, and not poor and faithful *Cassianus*. This expression seemed as strange to *Eumenes* ears, as the alteration of his habit did to his eyes; and therefore conjur'd him by all the remaining friendship left in his bosom, to let him know more of his secrets, which was a spell of sufficient force to charm him to all the discovery of the hidden mystery, concerning his Love

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to the fair *Cloria*, and his sudden departure from *Euarchus* Court. After that *Eumenes* had chid him for his omission toward himself, as also comforted him with some flattering hopes, whereby to awake his determinations to action tending to honour, since he knew otherwise it was impossible again to recover his lost Country of *Iberia*, he told him in a forc'd smile, that although he had poorly fled from his Mistress, yet she had shewed more courage, and was come in person to seek him out in his most privat habitation. These words put *Cassianus* to a new amazement, untill *Eumenes* in brief let him know, that the Queen being forced out of her repose, by the late troubles in *Lydia* since his departure, *Cloria* was come to accompany her Mother into *Syria*, both remaining for the present in the Temple within the Forest; whereas himself, as he said, had travelled most part of the past night, without success to find out a more convenient Lodging for the wearied Ladies: This gave occasion to *Cassianus* to inform him presently of the Foresters house, a place (as he told him) most fit for their reception, in that the Master was a Nobleman of *Syria*, banished also by misfortune out of his own Country. *Eumenes's* content and satisfaction for the accommodation, would not permit them longer to expostulate the matter; onely it was resolved *Cassianus* should make use of his borrowed name of *Cassia* still, which he called himself by amongst the inhabitants of the Forest, for fear of further discovery; supposing the change of his Apparel, and the shortness of his hair would obscure his person: with these determinations they went to find out the sorrowful Queen, and her Lovely Daughter, after their inconvenient rest.

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But *Cassianus*, although he had put on as strong a resolution as his weak power would give him leave, absolutely to bury his former Love in oblivion; yet when his eyes again beheld the admirable Princess, though onely drest with the sad cloathing of discontent for her Mothers oppressions, he stood trembling, without being able to speak one single word, having no power to invite them to the Foresters house. *Emmenes*, who quickly perceived his disease, told the Queen, that that young huntsman was come not onely to inform her, but to wait upon her to a more convenient habitation; which would appear the better, as he said, in regard of the inconvenience of the night past; the Queen, without any circumstances imbraced the offer, and went presently with her whole Trayn to take possession of the courtesie. The Lodge was seated upon a rising Hill, as if it had been ordained by Nature to be the commanding fortress of those Woods, which most pleasantly encompassed it round about, as a watchful Guard; yet leaving a large plain of all sides, to shew they would not intrude too neer to be an inconvenience to the dwelling, which circuit also was imployed to the best advantage, since most beautiful Gardens, with Fountains, afforded not onely delight, but added in a manner state to the building; however it seemed contrived only of purpose to avoid all ostentation, and purchase privacy. The Queen and the rest of the Company, had not imployed much time in beholding that pretty delight, but the old Forester himself, having been advertised by *Cassianus*, that went before to that purpose, of some Noble Guests which he was to entertain, though he was not at all informed of the persons, came out to meet them; as he prepared himself to give a complemental welcome,

come, according to the courtesie of his Nature, and the Civility of his Education, he was soon made certain of the presence of the Queen of *Lydia*, for that her Picture (which he had in his house) lively represented her countenance to his memory; and not long after the Queen also came to understand, that he was her base Brother, driven out of *Syria* by the power of *Philostrus*. As this unexpected encounter gave the Queen some consolation in her discontented voyage, so could not her brother be but impatient to know her fortunes, the occasions appearing extraordinary, that brought her to this solitary place: however he thought it not manners to press her to the inconvenience of a relation, before he had settled her in her Chamber, where the fair *Mantuanina* attended to do her service; who quickly brought in a curious Banquet of her own preserving, to give her Aunt entertainment. After *Hyacinthia* hath sufficiently refreshed her appetite, and the Princess *Cloria* was retired with *Eumenes*, and the young Forester *Cassia*, to take a view of those Gardens, which lay under her Mothers Chamber Window, the Queen being also descended into the Parlor, began the story of her own oppressions by *Eunarchus* Subjects, with these circumstances.

It is well known Brother, said she, that after *Philostrus* had firmly established his own power, by the absolute favour of his Master *Orsames*, he by that means, also suppressed the greatnesse of all the Nobility of *Syria*, who during the Kings infancy had alwayes demanded conditions for themselves by force of Armes; and having now no more opposition in his own Country, resolved to contend with the mightinesse of the *Egyptian* Monarchy. This, I may say, hath been one of the chief causes, that
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hath procured the King my husbands disturbances; and so consequently my own voluntary retirement, at present, since the great Favorite, *Philostros*, finding he could not by any means work *Euarchus* from his constant resolution, of keeping inviolably those ties of amity, that still continue between himself, and the State of *Egypt* (I being married, as was supposed, to that effect) became enflamed with a new spleen, against the quiet felicity we seemed to enjoy in *Lydia*; and by consequence held it a necessary piece of policy to disturb us in our peaceable government, whereby *Sorastros* might receive no assistance, either from our endeavour or power, if *Euarchus* at any time should be perswaded to such an intention, by those affected, as he thought, more to the *Egyptians* than to the *Syrians*: though truly, for my own part, I must ingenuously confess, for many yeeres together, I laboured that breach *Philostros* desired; however without effect, since the King my husband esteemed it a safer point of honour, to maintain both love and correspondency with all his neighbouring Princes, than to have a needless enmity for the ends only of others; yet that which most aggravated the fear (if not malice) of *Orsames* Favorite was, the coming into *Lydia* of Queen *Anaxia* my mother, as was surmised, with certain conditions, not only of a more strict unity between the two Crowns of *Egypt* and *Lydia*, but also with propositions of a match of our daughter *Cloria*, with Prince *Osirus*, by which means, he thought, the tye would become inviolable.

These reasons, as we imagined, caused *Philostros* to countenance some of the Nobility of *Myssia*, not only to have a more particular dependency upon the Crowns of *Syria*, but to become less regardfull of
their

their own Prince; and to demand some conditions advantageable to themselves, of *Euarchus*, by force of arms; since he neither lived with them, as was pretended, nor could be drawn to make a war with the King of *Armenia*, in his Nephew *Cassianus* quarrel. Whilst businesses were agitating in this manner, one *Dimogoras*, an antient Noble man of *Lydia*, being not only of a factious disposition, but extremely befriended of the common sort of people, who for the most part have not patience, nor constancy to remain long in one mind, taking advantage of Prince *Cassianus* comming to the Court of *Lydia*, as also of the discontents of *Myssia*, of a sudden began with all violence to cry out for an engagement with the King of *Armenia*; whereby, as 'twas alleged, with more honour to recover again the lost Countrey of *Iberia*. As these inflammations, I must tell, prognosticated some alterations in our Kingdome of *Lydia*, which *Euarchus* had endeavoured for many yeeres to detain in a quiet security, both out of his natural inclination of peace, as well as by the faithfull counsel of one *Pollinex*; so of the other side, of necessity, it could not but afford the King sufficient matter for his thoughts and considerations to work upon: To this purpose, he presently dispatched, not only an Ambassadour of quality to *Artaxes* King of *Armenia*, seriously to expostulate with him, about the restoring of the countrey of *Iberia* to his Nephew Prince *Cassianus*; but also sent other Messengers into *Myssia*, as well to temper, as to feel the dispositions of those people, since he had been advertised of disorders, if not rebellions already begun in that climate, which he thought would prove of some troublesome (if not dangerous) consequence to his affaires, if not suddenly allayed and pacified in regard the situation

on of their habitations were not only barren, but unaccessible in many places: in this posture jealousies continued, if not encreased, by a certain kind of desperation of all sides; until the King himself in person was constrained, with a royal Army to march towards the confines of *Myssia*, whereby in some visible way by his presence, to terrifie those people, if it were possible to new obedience, since neither his messengers, nor perswasions had been able one jot to worke upon their natures or loyalties; and the rather did he resolve to make this expedition, for that he understood, some of the Nobility had already sent a submission to *Orsames* my brother; however *Philostros*, his Favorite, not long after conveyed the Letter to me in a complement.

BUT the *Myssians*, not appearing any thing sensible of their ingratitude, with the like seeming resolutions prepared themselves to give the King battel: whilst in the interim *Euarchus*, suspecting many of the Nobility of *Lydia* that were in his army (though in person they appeared to attend his command) were disaffected to the cause, he tendred them an oath of fidelity, which they refusing, he appointed them either to be confined, or retained in prison: But that which seemed most strange in every mans apprehension was, that *Dimogoras* remained most resolute notwithstanding to the Kings purposes against the *Myssians*; though with what inward intention, I am not able to determine, since both before and after the wars, he hath shewed himself most peevish and spiteful in all our occasions.

In fine, not to detain you too long with the relation of many tedious circumstances, when *Euarchus* was ready to have given his disobedient subjects the *Myssians* a total if not dismal overthrow, by reason of

of the prerogative of his numbers and power; he not only shuffled up, contrary to every ones expectation, certain conditions for their advantage; but granted them also liberty to appoint Commissioners for themselves, whereby with more deliberation to dispute their pretended grievances in *Lydia*. However the Ambassadors, instead of applying themselves to *Euarchus*, to finish the promised and begun Treaty, did of the contrary comply wholly with all the factious of *Lydia*; which hath produced since the calling together of the great Council of the Kingdom. But for that one *Pollinex* suffered by this authority, who was a man of excellent wit, knowledge, and courage, as well as his trial and condemnation remarkable, I shall particularly mention the passages.

As it was well known at what root the Senate of the Kingdom intended to strike, being thus assembled, without the good liking of the King; so *Pollinex* could not chuse but perceive the main mark they aimed at was his destruction, as being the chief man that would and durst give his Master any counsel of contradiction: yet, having belike an absolute confidence, either in his own Innocency, or his Princes favour; withall, building perhaps too much upon his eloquence and parts, could not by any means be persuaded to quit the Kingdom; wherefore being presently apprehended, a Tribunal was erected for his condemnation; however the Senate intended to be both Judges and Accusers, though my Husband and my self were at the hearing, being desirous out of some kind of curiosity, not only to be satisfied concerning the crimes of *Pollinex*, but to be witnesses of the prosecution. After the Prisoner was brought to the bar, they wanted no force of arguments to render him seemingly guilty, to the admiring people; who

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had bin made already sufficiently prejudicate in their opinions, by those which thought to gain by his destruction: And for the Nobility, that seemed by the Lawes of *Lydia*, to be his formal Judges (however in effect they durst but act what was dictated to them by the multitude) conceived his escape might prejudice their own fortunes, wherfore were partly resolved of their judgements before hand, knowing as in some sort his nature was implacable, so would it be almost impossible to work him out of his Masters favour; these reasons enlarged the disputations to some weeks revolution with equal violence.

But at last many of his Judges, whether convinced by the eloquence and powerfulness of his arguments, or whether perswaded to more indifferency, by some hope to enter into the Kings favour, of a sudden not only forbore any more to inforce their allegations, but in direct terms, either professed themselves his friends, or seemed openly to pretend, as they had been formerly induced to thoughts of his condemnation, by the cries of the people, and opinions of his crimes, so were both their hearts and consciences now altered towards his preservation, in regard of those reasonable and just defences, he had made for himself, publickly before the face of the multitude. Nevertheless both *Dimogoras* and the rest of his faction, continued yet violent in their intended purposes, which was not only by this means to pull *Pollinex* from the bosome of the King, but also to take away his life, lest he might again mount into places of eminency, to their prejudice: yet doubting that by this way of triall, they should not possibly compass their ends, in that the Judges being only of the Nobility, were divided in their opinions, resolved upon passing a law in the Senate-house for his condemnation.

After

After they had totally declined the first manner of prosecution, it was not long before they put in execution the second, whereupon poor *Pollinex*, was condemned to the slaughter; and not onely stood thus censured as a guilty person, without having liberty to speak for himself; but *Euarchus* was also constrained, by the Cries and Exclamations of the enraged people, to give his unwilling consent to this unfortunate and cruel Judgement, though long he disputed with his *Flamins* about it, who all perswaded him to the compliance, rather than hazzard his own person, and the Kingdome Ruin.

Notwithstanding the King had condescended to these particulars, with an intention to give the strongest testimonies could any way be devised, towards the satisfying of the thoughts (if not rather the fancies) of his unbelieving Subjects; yet those of *Dimogoras* faction in the Senate, perceiving the Kings unwillingness to this unexampled Act of pretended Justice, began to think, that if they could not also procure from his consent, a perpetual continuation of their own present power and authority; by some stratagem or other, their own heads might soon pay for the violence used against *Pollinex*; wherefore it was conceived most necessary, whilst they seemed to govern the actions of the people, by their cries and clamours to fright *Euarchus* (or rather those about him) to some extraordinary compliance in this Nature; and by this means to have the Assembly of the Senat, not at all to be determined by the antient and known Prerogative of the Crown, without their own allowance; which was almost no sooner demanded, but it was granted; the rather for that the Propositions carried with them two fair pretences: First, that

the necessary affairs of the Kingdom required such a concession, by reason of those monies that had been borrowed for the payment of the Armies, and the defraying of the Souldiers expences. The second, in regard the King might at his pleasure, as was told him, deny the confirmation of any Law should be offered unto him, if he thought it either prejudicial to himself or people. With these suppositions, *Euarchus* was content to please his thoughts, and entertain his fancy; whilst on the other side *Dimogoras* and his faction, did not onely extremely rejoyce at the victory, their policy had gained over the Kings constancy, but began daily more and more to press upon his patience with other inconvenient, and I may say, most unreasonable demands; in so much as he was forced to tempt the *Mysian* Commissioners, with a promise to make good unto that Nation, all their own desires and pretensions, provided they would assist his present necessities, in the recovery of all those privileges he had lately parted from and lost in the Country of *Lydia*.

This, I must tell you, seemed not onely to be agreed upon, but *Euarchus* himself in person made a voyage presently into *Mysia*, whereby the surer to confirm the Articles: when the King had thus performed, (they in the interim promising him all service and fidelity) returned again joyfully into the Kingdom of *Lydia*, where he was received with some testimonies of Love by the City of *Sardis*; yet the Senate perceiving, the King began to purchase some good opinion in the hearts of the better sort, put forth many Declarations, wherein they not onely raxed him with divers faults in his own disposition, but bitterly complained of his manner of government; These they publicly presented unto him, for-
tified

tified by the clamours and execrations of the multitudes of the lowest sort of people.

In these perplexities both my self and *Euarchus* remained for some moneths; finding that the Senate did not onely overpower all our endeavours, notwithstanding we desired to give all satisfaction we could to the common people; but the *Mysians* had deceived us in our expectations, although we had both their promises and oaths to the contrary: so that after my Mother was also banished out of *Lydia*, taking counsel of our best thought, since we had few about us we could entirely trust, we resolved, as the King intended to try another part of the Kingdom for his future safety and content, so my self would make use of my interest with *Orsames* in *Syria*, notwithstanding his great Favourite *Philostros* opposition, to see what assistance and relief, I could purchase for my Husband in his distresses against his own Subjects; with these words the tears stood in her fair eyes, that seemed to stop the rest of her discourse; however she put on such a Countenance, that appeared more to disdain her persecutors, than to bemoan her misfortunes.

CANDALUS, for so was her Brother called, who with a respectful silence had heard out the Queens relation, reflecting in some sort by the related circumstances, upon his own oppressions, returned this Answer: Madam, said he, although in a far lesse modell I must behold my sufferings, since my condition was not capable of such losses as yours, yet when I consider a person can but lose all; as dark a night of unhappinesse may be said to shut up his felicity, as is possible; which I allege not any way to diminish the compassion that is due to your Person and Dignity, from all

Noble and Generous Spirits; but to possesse your Thoughts, with some desire of a privat Life, if things succeed not according to your wishes in your Journey: And the rather in regard I may very probably doubt, the Favourite will not easily be withdrawn from any of his Designes, by what perswasions soever, having a determination perchance to destroy the *Lydian* Monarchy; Besides, I have often heard him say, that a popular State is most easie to be dealt withall by a Politician, since it consisting of many Heads, some of the rulers at all times, will be subject to the discovery of their privatest Counsels, either by way of corruption in their dispositions, or want of secrecie in their Natures.

However, replied the Queen, the consequence of any rebellion or change of government in this nature, cannot be, but a most dangerous president to the kingdom of *Syria* it self; especially if both the *Mysians* and the Senate of *Lydia* do joyn in such an unity, that they cannot be severed, by the interests or power of other Nations: for that, said *Candalus*, the Favourite imagineth, that as there will be continual factions and divisions amongst themselves, whereby upon all occasions they may be divided, notwithstanding any tye of friendship or agreement, so hath he laid, as he believeth, so perfect and strong a foundation in his own Country, that it is impossible it should rebel at any time to his disadvantage, having not onely furnished all the fortified places, with plentiful Garrisons of his own creatures, but by reason of the War he makes in every corner of *Asia*, he hath the commodity of divers Armies, alwayes ready at his Command, to suppress any insurrection whatsoever; and the poorer the people are,

are, according to his Maxims, the less capable of dangerous Disorders; for that their discontents shall rather produce distracted Assemblies, than well-designed or furnished Troops, having neither Money to pay their Souldiers, nor Captains to lead their forces; so that of necessity if they rise, they must become contemptible sacrifices to his power & spleen, instead of easing of themselves by their contentions.

'Tis true Brother, answered the Queen, I make no doubt but *Philostros* hath these thoughts in his imagination; yet, me thinks, he that pretends so much to the good and honour of *Syria*, should also consider, that I being a child of the house, and married into *Lydia*, by the general consent of my Friends, ought not to be thus cast away; without either conditions observed, in regard of my Nuptials, or any consideration at all had of my person: and the rather may I expect this Justice I speak of, and am about to demand of *Orsames* or his Favourite, for that the disgrace will reflect upon the whole Nation of *Syria*, who will appear to the world either unwilling, or not able to assist me in my necessities, it being a certain kind of Moral, if not Religious Duty, practised amongst the meanest Families; much more is it to be expected, from the Dignity of Kings and Princes, that should be inflamed with the least suspicion or jealousy of dishonour.

Madam, replied *Candalus*, however I might allege from the nature and proceedings of *Philostros*, other pernicious Maxim of State-policy, used in the communication, and comportment of Princes in their governments; as for example; That it is better to hazard, if not sacrifice, a Daughter of the royal house, than any way to lose or endanger the least

good to the Kingdom: Yet I shall desire you to believe what I have spoke in this discourse, are but the arguments of States-men, or rather you may interpret them my own fancies, the better to settle your thoughts against unexpected accidents, so that I should think my wishes very fortunate if your perswasion can prevail with your Brothers goodnesse, without the knowlege of his great Favourite, whereby it might procure you assistance, as my self freedom, to return into *Syria*, again to enjoy the conversation of my Friends; or at least wise some allowance out of my own estate; notwithstanding I am prepared as you see, to be contented with my present Fortune.

By this time the Princess *Cloria*, and the rest of Company were come out of the Garden, from taking those pleasures, which the beauty of the place afforded; who prettily pressing to give her Mother an account of those rarities she had seen, absolutely put off the other serious discourses; for that every one was most willing to be so employed, untill *Mantinna* with an humble salutation informed her Father, that the Queenes Supper in another Room attended her pleasure, which being accommodated rather with exquisite neatness, than magnificent plenty, encreased the opinion of that happy course of life, appearing free from Ambition, though wanting no content that might satisfy Temperance, however not fulfil Pride. But the circumstance of the Feast being past, and every one retiring to their rest, *Eumenes* would needs accompany *Cassia* towards his Lodgings, that were in a Village not far off: *Cassia* was more willing to condescend to his Friends trouble because he was desirous to hear something from him of his own departure from *Lydia*, and of the sucresse of that Ambassadour

Ambassadour which *Euarchus* had sent into *Armenia*, to treat about the restoration of his Country of *Iberia*; yet the night being too far spent to make any long relations, without some suspicion of their former acquaintance, they resolved both the next morning to meet in the Forest under the tree where the day before they found one another, as the most convenient place of communication and consultation.

Cassia was the first that appeared, as it should seem most passionate in his desires; but *Eumenes* not being also over slothfull, not long after gave him the meeeting, were both seating themselves upon an old root, which by nature was ordained fit for the conference, since it afforded them the conveniencie; *Eumenes* began to discover unto him these particulars; however, with a conjuration first, not to be moved with the relation; After, said he, that you had taken your flight from the Court of *Lydia*, for so I must call it, rather than a departure, since your friends were not worthy to be of your Counsel, the Ambassadour which *Euarchus* had sent into *Armenia*, to treat about the redelivery of your Countrey of *Iberia*, not only returned, but brought with him a conditional restoration of your right; which was, that certain monies should be paid to *Tygranus* Duke of *Colchis*, and you to promise a firm obedience to the Crown of *Armenia*: But *Damogoras* fearing that this seeming accord would prejudice the hopes of his employment, began exceedingly to mutiny against the propositions, as dishonourable, since you were not to be established with all freedome; withall alleging, it were more justice in *Euarchus* to bestow his daughter upon you, being of her own blood and religion, than upon *Osirus*, who was alwayes known to be an enemy to the worship of the Gods, according

ing to the Rules of *Lydia*, as also the State and prosperity of the Kingdom it self; which makes me believe, now I think upon it, that you thought him more worthy than my self, to be made acquainted with your privat Love, who else certainly could not have been inspired with those Apprehensions. At which *Cassianus* began to blush, but *Eumenes* not willing to break off his relation by any diversion, told him, that his intention was onely to inform him, that he might know hereafter the better how to prosecute his affairs, and not to upbraid him, whereby to put him into confusions, so then followed on his discourse; Neither did *Damogoras*, said he, make use of his own tongue only to blast the justice of the Kings intentions, but combined also with many *Myrians* about the Court, to reprove *Euarchus* manner of Government; besides they alleged, that the Queen spent more in Masks and Dancings, than would maintain a Royal Army, by force of arms to recover your lost right: And for *Anaxia* they made the people believe, that by giving her noble entertainment in *Lydia*, the Kingdom was not only exposed to the unrelenting spleen of *Philostros*, *Orsames* great Favorite, but to be feared, that horrid troubles would quickly fall upon the whole Countrey, since her person ever brought mischief and misfortune wheresoever it went. With these exclamations, in a short space, they chased the poor Queen out of *Lydia*, again to seek an uncertain fortune, who only desired a resting place for her aged body, to spend the rest of her years in peace and security; but the Gods it should seem, willing to put an end to her miseries, have since taken her out of the world, to the example of all greatness, and human glory, scarce leaving her sufficient to provide for her decent funerals: however

Damogoras with the rest of his factious companions, seemed not yet satisfied, but continued still their turbulent practices ; so that now they have not only pluckt from *Eunarchus* imperial Diadem , the chief Flowers that adorn it, which is regal authority, but have by their violent proceedings also, driven out of the Kingdom *Hyacinthia* their Queen, either with intention, the more to please the powerful Favourite, or to prevent her from assisting the King by her Counsels to defend his Kingly authority. This, *Cassianus*, is the occasion of our present journey into *Syria*, whereby if it be possible , to obtain some succours from *Orsames* power , to qualifie these threatening disorders, that promise little less than the ruin of the prosperity of *Lydia*, whilst you in the mean time seem to put on a resolution to bury your thoughts in this contented course of life, neither reflecting upon the misery your affairs in part have produced, nor consider the honour of your house, in recovering again by action your lost Patrimony ; and with these words rested silent, as if he expected some satisfaction by his friends reply.

After that *Cassianus* had only signified his sorrow by a few sighes, and not many tears, he asked *Eumenes* what he would have him do ? What would I have you do, said *Eumenes* ? either prosecute your love to the fair Princess, if it be possible to be obtained ; since *Clorias* indignation cannot be but exasperated against your person, by reason of her Fathers suffering, as she may think, by your means ; or else, take upon you some brave resolution, to recover again your lost Countrey, which you have now a better opportunity than ever to obtain ; for *Orsames* hath lately proclaimed open wars against the King of *Armenia*, in the name of all the oppressed Princes,

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of which number I am sure you cannot but be esteemed one; and for the conveniency of both the designs, you may accompany us under your disguised habit into *Syria*, without any suspicion at all; as well to attempt the love of the Princess *Cloria* in the journey, as to undertake the recovery of your Countrey when you are there, if you fail of the first. This proposition of *Eumenes*, extremely pleased *Cassianus*; so that again his hopes seemed to invite his endeavours to the execution; only there appeared yet this difficulty, how he could easily part from the old Forester, whom he had promised to accompany as long as he lived; and had to that purpose, by the sale of his Jewels, provided himself with all necessaries for such a determination. But *Eumenes* told him, that as that obstacle ought to be of too low a consideration for his thoughts, since his birth and fortunes required the highest resolutions, so of the other side, he could furnish him with a most warrantable pretext, in that yesternight, said he, the Queen being in discourse with her Brother, about his return into *Syria*, (which she promised, notwithstanding her own pressing occasions, to sollicite with all diligence) you may undertake to be the messenger, to bring him back an answer of the success, and by that means have the opportunity, not only to be admitted into the Queens train, but in the journey be a daily attendant about your Mistresses person. This was so far from not contenting *Cassianus*, that it almost ravisht his apprehensions; whereupon, imbracing *Eumenes*, he told him, that notwithstanding his own ingratitude, he was ordained by the Gods to be the preserver of his honour, if not the obtainer of his felicity.

Not many dayes after this discourse, when the Queen had refreshed her self sufficiently with her Brothers

Brothers contented solitude, and that preparation was made of two good ships at the next Sea-port, to carry her into *Syria*; the one for her own person, attended by her Ladies, and chief train, the other for her horses, with other commodities for the voyage; (in which later however *Eumenes* and *Cassianus* chose to go, not only because they would give the women the greater liberty, but also have the more opportunity for their own private discourses) they put to sea one gentle morning, when the wind seemed most obedient to the intention, and sailed all the day in such a peaceable calm, as if *Neptune* meant to contribute his absolute protection, in conducting the Queen to *Tyre*, a Haven where she intended to disembark for *Damascus*; however an hour before night, when the Sun scarce appeared above the superficies of the earth, the winds as it should seem, inconstant to their former resolution, began first to quarrel with the sayls, as if they had been angry with their gallant bravery, for driving the vessel with so quiet a Majesty, upon the smooth face of the Ocean; and then made war against the waves, for subjugating themselves to such a burden; which not only continued, but increased the trouble, untill dark night gave warning to the Mariners, to take down the tacklings from the Mast, lest violently they might be cast upon some of the rocks, which they knew every where dispersed in those Seas; neither could they conveniently make use of their anchors in the deep waters: But the storm increasing, not only augmented the fear of the whole company, especially the women, who by their loud shrieks hardly gave opportunity to the workmen to perform their offices, according to the words of command, but also gave cause of doubt to the chief
Pilots

Pilots themselves, that understood more knowingly the danger: only the Queen, whose thoughts seemed already drowned in a vast sea of discontent, scarce believed she could undergo a worse shipwreck: yet poor *Cloria*, whose innocency had never merited such a hazzard, could not chuse but complain, inwardly of the cruelty, though her expressions were no other, than in a seeming pale and distracted silence, sometimes crying nevertheless, because she saw it generally practised; untill the thunder and lightning in the night, increased the horreur of every ones expectation, discovering, as it were by that unpleasant light, the greedy waves, ready gaping with a devouring aspect, to swallow up all their hopes, which put them past an amazed fear, to a certain expectation of ruin: Wherefore the Priests were presently called to do sacrifice to the Gods, either to appease their fury, whereby they might be assisted here in the danger of their lives, or obtain their mercy in another world after their deaths; some in hope yet to escape from ruin; others of more pious thought, speedily to be removed to a better habitation; and a third sort invoked without any confidence, but to be conformable to the custom; which however gave sufficient employment to the whole assembly for some hours, until by little and little, about the break of day, the winds began something to abate of their furious rudeness, as if they had partly wearied themselves out of breath with their own violent combustion; Then suddenly *Aurora* started out of her watry Couch, seemingly more early than ordinary, to chide the storm for being so over bold in her absence, in disturbing the quiet felicity of so Noble a company: This gave warning to her slothfull Lover, not only to attend his blushing Mistress, but

but to aid her in her desire, again to command the winds to their wonted Caves; only to converse with monsters, since they knew no better how to use their power, amongst people of a milder conversation: but in the interim sweet *Cloria*, with a tincture more illustrious than the brightest Goddess, directed her eyes and hands to the Heavens, as a testimony of her gratitude for her preservation; which in a short time produced so perfect a calm, that the seas seemed with humility to beg pardon for their late agitation; and certainly had with much ease obtained it of the whole company, since every one was full of joy for the unexpected change, if of a sudden the miserable wrack of the other ship had not appeared as a horrid spectacle; the mast covered over with dead bodies floating in one place; trunks, and other commodities swimming in others; horses and men half dead striving with natural industry to keep the little life that yet remained in their bodies to the last minute: some again upon broken boards had good fortune to save themselves on the sides of the approaching rocks; whilst a few were preserved by the hasty sending out of the long boat to their assistance, though, amongst the number, neither *Cassia* nor *Eumenes* appeared: but however this cause of sorrow troubled their hearts for a long season, especially the Queens, whose Noble compassion could not but melt into some tears; yet the mariners were hasty to conduct the ship to a safe harbour, since she was rendred for the present, altogether incapable of a farther voyage, having neither sails nor mast; besides, being much beaten by the storm; so that upon consultation, *Cyprus* was found to be the next convenient landing place, which caused them to direct their intentions to some commodious port in that Island: wherefore,

as within six hours hard labour, by the industrious marriners, they arrived in a little haven, not many furlongs from the famous City of *Salamine*.

The Duke hearing the news of the Queens falling upon that coast, as also the occasion of her retirement out of *Lydia*, speedily prepared himself, not only to give her a respectfull visit, befitting her quality, but some convenient consolation, in regard of her necessity; Wherefore presently causing his own Palace to be accommodated for her reception, with a Noble train, went himself in person to offer her the welcom and honour of *Cyprus*. The Queen understanding of the Dukes approach, thought it not at all fit, punctually to observe the circumstances appertaining unto her dignity, since she was now rather become a suppliant, than to keep State, so went out of the house to give him the meeting, who quickly with a Courtly humility, kissing her fair hand, told her, that although the seas should have done reverence to her quality, for which they deserved to be chastized, yet the Gods were abundantly propitious to afford *Cyprus* the happiness of her reception, by the others neglect; and for his own particular, he vow'd her his best service against her malicious enemies. The Queen, after that she had returned the Duke a gratefull thanks, in a bashfull smile, told him, that as she could not blame the seas, that was but a senseless creature, for any inconvenience she had suffered, since she found so much omission in the subjects of her own Countrey; so of the other side, she esteemed the windes had done her a favour, in driving her into a place she found an intire Nobleness.

After the Duke had invited the Queen to *Salamine*, which she accepted within three daies, because she was not prepared at the present for the journey, both

both in regard of her losses at sea, and her own, and peoples indisposition by reason of the storm, he took his leave, with a resolution at the time appointed, to meet her, with such a military entertainment, as was fit for her reception; and according to that determination, the morning before the Queen was to take her little though solemn journey, the Dukes Trumpets presented her with an early salutation, which gave warning that their Lord was not far off, to perform the rest of the Service; and being placed in a Chariot of Crimson Velvet, she was conducted through the peoples acclamations, towards the place designed for her aboad; when, in the interim, every ones eyes were cast upon the young Princess *Cloria*, seated at her mothers feet, resembling another *Diana*, with a silver bow in her hand, and a Garland of flowers upon her head; though another beauty invited also their looks, and something withdrew their intentions, which was lovely *Narcissus*, the Dukes son, gallantly mounted, who with a brave company on horse-back was come out of the Town, by his fathers command, to honour the shew. *Narcissus* appeared to be a beautifull *Cupid*, sent by the Gods to conquer the inferiour world, with the effects of love; and *Cloria* resembled a Deity placed upon a Throne in the heavens, above the reach of mortality to attempt: he looked like the spring adorned with variety of choicest flowers; and she, as an illustrious morning breaking in the East, coloured by *Auroras* blush. The people, with a transported delight beheld the one, but with an amazement, seemed to adore the other. These objects absolutely destroyed the other richness, designed for the Queens entertainment; for the multitude imployed all their hearts and hands, to invite a continuation of what

their never to be wearied eyes saw before them , till the best part of the neglected triumph , past away without being regarded.

When these sweet creatures met one another , though with their looks only , since the distance of their persons would afford them no greater a convenience ; they pursued the encounter with such an earnest attentiveness , as if the Destinies had already determined an eternal sympathy in their hearts , not to be disunited by an earthly power ; however , the poor girl presently blusht , although her innocency knew nothing wherefore ; and *Narcissus* , appearing inflamed with that blush , instantly grew red ; at which *Cloria* cast down her eyes , as if apprehending a fault in her too much confidence ; whilst the youth , having suddenly lost the brightest part of his delight , approached , neerer the Chariot ; at which unexpected boldness , the Princess grew presently pale , fearing belike a publique address. But he apprehending , with a sharp reverence , the mayds desire , not only fell back from his determination , but also mingled himself with the rest of his company ; which gave occasion to *Cloria* , to seek him continually with her looks , until their arrival at the Palace gate , for some interrupted the enquiry , though a greater conveniency brought them to a neerer neighbourhood : for whilst *Narcissus* father led the Queen up the stairs , he thought it his duty , as his son , to offer the same service to the Daughter : wherefore taking her by the fair hand to perform the office , *Cloria* suddenly feeling the touch , which her modesty had scarce ever been acquainted with from any other person , with a quick violence pluckt it from him , and hid it in her muff. He too much apprehending the action , had hardly power with trembling steps , to carry himself

self up into the room ; yet, by that time having recovered some breath, and considering his last part of Courtship was to be playd, since she was shortly to be inclosed in her Chamber from his sight, approached her ears with a few distracted complements, which she answered no otherwise than with a smile, and presently seemed to flie to the protection of her Mother, where she remained as in a fortress, free as she conceived from his importunities, until the Duke his Father took his leave of the Queen, that necessarily commanded also *Narcissus* from his tormenting delight, to wait upon his duty.

But the poor Boy, not being able to bear the strong assaults of powerfull love, within a short time began to lose the beauty of his cheeks, and not long after fell into a most dangerous sickness; so that the Duke not knowing the secret cause of the violent distempers of his sweet Son, with grief and diligence assembled the best Physicians of those parts; however, all their knowledges were not of sufficient force, either to know the nature of his disease, or to cure his violent maladie, which put the whole Court into an extreme perplexity, as himself into a desperate sadness; the rather, for that melancholy sighes were the only expressions which were used by love-sick *Narcissus*; until one day the Princess *Cloria* coming into the Chamber with the Queen her Mother, charitably to visit her almost dead though unknown Lover, and standing by his bed-side, with tears also in her eyes, the Assembly quickly found not only an apparent change in his countenance, but the Doctors felt a violent alteration in his pulse, which gave occasion of some discourse at the present, but of more enquire afterward of the reason. Wherefore when the Queen with her fair Daughter were departed, and

the rest of the company severed from their attendants, the Duke by the advise of some of the Physicians, began to fall upon a strict examination of his Son, and so far prest him to the discovery of his inward thoughts, that at last the youth not being able to shew much disobedience to his Father, though his bashfull love a long time contended against his duty, revealed not only the true cause of his passion, but the subject of his distempers: This gave the Dukes despairs some satisfaction, in that at least he conceived he had got a knowledge, whereby his Son might come to be recovered, though the remedie required to be applyed with as much expedition, as the disease seemed desperat in operation. Wherefore after he had comforted the Boy, with as many hopes as possibly he could, the better to keep up his courage, and so consequently to procure ease in his pain, that he might have the more force to resist the violence of his desire, as well as the likelier to dispose him for the cure, he retired himself into his own Chamber, there to consider with less interruption, what course was to be taken for the purpose he intended; which was to save his Sons life, in whom consisted all his felicity, since he had only besides one Daughter, the fair *Eretheria*, who was not capable by reason of her Sex, to succeed to his honour, and command in the Island of *Cyprus*.

First he laid before his consideration, the seeming impossibility of his Sons recoverie, without the assurance of *Cloria's* affections, since the Physicians informed him, that the nature of love was of too violent a quality, to suffer any medicine to operate with effect in a sick patient, unless that passion were either qualifi'd or satisfi'd.

Next he knew that was not to be obtained, unless
the

the Princeſſe her ſelf became the Artiſt, which ſeemed to be a work of no ſmall difficulty; Theſe difficulties continued the Dukes thoughts in a perplexed labyrinth, ſometimes conſidering his own diſabilities to pretend to ſo high a match, ſince he was rather eſteemed a Subject and Servant to the State of *Cyprus*, than an abſolute Prince indeed in his power and command, however of the other ſide again he reflected upon his own worth, and upon the opinion the world had of his valour and riches; but that was ſcarce held competent in his imagination, when he conſidered the attempt he was to make, was not onely upon the primeſt beauty of all *Aſia*, but he was to contend with the honour and glory of *Syria* and *Lydia*, who claimed an intereſt both in her blood and quality. Yet ſeeing for the preſent his aſſiſtance was neceſſary for the Queens affairs, he reſolved to make the demand, eſpecially for that without it, his Son was ſure to periſh, which to his happineſs was a perpetual night: with this determination he went inſtantly to the Queen *Hyacinthia*, carrying with him a Souldiers heart, but a Suppliants countenance.

After he had performed his accuſtomed ſalutations, and entertained her with ſome ordinary diſcourſes, giving her a ſhort account alſo of his Sons indiſpoſition, being ſeated together by the Queens importunity in a chair, he began his more ſerious propoſition after this manner: *Madam* ſaid he, as I come not now altogether to pay thoſe due Ceremonies which appertain to the dignity of your Maſteſty; ſo I muſt humbly intreat your goodneſſe to excuſe the neceſſity of my Errand, ſince it is the violence of a youthful affection onely that occaſions it to my grief, as to your trouble: be pleaſed then to know, that being earneſtly inquisitive to underſtand

my Sons disease, whose desperate condition requires present assistance, or brings speedy death, I used not onely the Art of the best of Physicians of these parts, but imployed my whole Authority to examine his inward thoughts, finding by some signes, that much of his sickness proceeded from hidden discontents, since the variableness of his passions returned and abated according to accidents, which (not to detain you too long in a needless expectation of what I would discover, and after that intreat) is no other than that *Narcissus* is in Love with your fair Daughter, the Princess *Cloria*, whom as I fear he must either enjoy as his right, or perpetually lose his other joyes in this world; for that as I am informed, there is no mean between possessing that admirable beauty, or marrying himself to the deformity of a dark Sepulcher; wherefore, as I cannot challenge so great an honour out of any hope of my own merit, so of the other side give me leave to profess, that all my fortunes, power, and endeavours, shall be alwayes faithfully imployed in the Service of your self and Husband, against the injuries of your disobedient Subjects.

The Queen after she had heard this strange and unexpected discourse of the Duke, did not of the sudden well know what to answer; of the one side considering the high consequence of his request; as of the other, the great need she might have of his help, besides the present entertainment she received in his Country, with the desperate condition of his onely Son, fallen into the accidental misfortune by her own personal arrival in the Island of *Cyprus*: but having a pretty while pawed upon a reply, not to be too rash in uttering that, which past she could not well recall, at last she returned him this answer, with a countenance that expressed fear, doubt, and affection:

on: My Lord, said she, as the noble Courtesies which you have been pleased to cast upon me in my necessities, with that human consideration that all the world ought to have of the deservings of your sweet Son, must needs stir up such a grateful pitty in my Soul, that I shall endeavour all wayes possible to render you totally satisfied; so of the other side, I must beseech you without partiality to consider, that I am not only a wife, and so consequently under the obedience of my Husband, who cannot but expect to have at leastwise the knowledge of the dispose of his Daughter in marriage, but am also going towards *Orfames* my Brother, to obtain from his power an assistance in my pressing affaires, who certainly could not be but displeased to have his Neece given away in the journey without his privity; yet so far I am content to comply with your request, to let you see how grateful I desire to be, because the necessity of your Sons disease may require some speedy remedy, as that my Daughter accompanied with her governess *Roxana*, shall frequently visit *Narcissus*, until by the opinion of his *Physicians*, he be clean out of danger; whilst in the mean time we may have some opportunity, as well to consider as to solicit *Orfames*, and make *Enarchus* acquainted with your intentions; However, I judge the convenience more proper for both, when I shall my self in person go into *Syria*.

The Duke being transported with the graciousness of the Queens reply, not doubting but this liberty was sufficient to recover a thousand new lives in his sick Son, took her fair hand, upon which he sealed his humble thankfulness, and withall vow'd himself a perpetual Slave to her service; After he had staid some small time longer in her Chamber, as a circumstance belonging to his Courtship,

(though his desire flew with speedy Wings to bear away the joyful Newes to *Narcissus*) he took his leave, which not onely filled all the Court with confidence of his Sons recovery, but the wished effects quickly followed; for the Youth reviving by these hopes, within ten dayes obtained his perfect health, to the absolute content of all *Cyprus*: The Princess *Cloria* beginning now also by that allowed familiarity, with the former impressions she had received, to tast the sweet apprehensions of her Lovers Passions, though her innocent temper could scarce be brought to the least discovery, one day with her Governnesse (whilst her Mother was otherwise employed) took occasion to take the pleasure of those Gardens that lay not far off her own Lodging, where plucking with her white hand many dainty flowers, which that place plentifully afforded, when she came to that, that the Poets feigned the antient *Narcissus* to be turned into (inwardly interpreting it, as a perfect Emblem of her Servants perfections) she read so fluent a Lecture upon the theam, and with such an earnestness, that it was easie to be perceived, what subject her heart most delighted in; however *Roxana* understanding her meaning, had much ado to abstain from laughing at the pretty expression of her affections: yet with difficulty she forbore any publication thereof, until she had fully ended her Love discourse; and then the old Woman, in a kind of a serious smile beseeched her Highness, since she appeared to be so mighty a Schölar in those fictions of the Poets, she would so far instruct her ignorance, that she might also be made acquainted with the application of the story. But *Cloria* soon discovering by her Governesses feigned Gravity, that she made Request onely to jeer her, presently with the apprehension

sion began to blush: At which *Roxana* laughed in good earnest; and that drove sweet *Cloria* absolutely out of countenance, in so much as with a kind of a gentle anger, mixt with an innocent shame, she wept; which certainly had drawn on a more dangerous quarrel, between her and her Governess, if a messenger from the Queen, had not commanded *Cloria* to wait upon her Mother, to certain pleasures of hawking, prepared for her delight and recreation, that diverted for the present the contention.

However love seemed now to triumph of his conquest, over these two excellent creatures; yet the spiteful destinies would not with so much happiness, suffer them to enjoy the sweetness of their delightful conversation; for the Queen falling sick by reason of her late distempers at sea, and the Duke being call'd away to his warlike imployment against the King of *Egypt*, these accidents separated their persons, though not their affections, to both their discontentments; for necessarily *Narcissus* must accompany his Father in the journey: which kept the Princess *Cloria* some time after, as it were wedded to her own lodgings, unless it were, as her duty invited her, to visit her Mother; pretending however, her retiredness proceeded from the Queens indisposition.

But the Princess at last being altogether tired with keeping the house, one evening she call'd her Governess to accompany her into the fields to take some taste of the fresh air; where long she had not spent that time, that she rendred altogether innocent by her hurtless imployment, now & then plucking the beauties of nature, that appeared to put on a more cheerful look, to be handled by such delicacy; (for though their wild growth, afforded them not so much sweetness as domestick flowers, yet her pure breath seemed

seemed to supply that defect, as she carried them in her fair hand) before she encountered with a lovely Countrey maid, bearing upon her Arm a white Basket, covered with a whiter cloth; the young damsel at the sight of the Princess, not only stood still in a trembling posture, as if her own bashfulness had a little distracted her, but withall caused her to dress her countenance with such interchanges of red and white, that *Cloria* with a pretty smile at the Girls confusion, began to interrogate her of her name, friends, and business; unto which the girl, after she had borrowed leave of her fears, by the Princess encouragement, told her she was called *Aminta*, born of Countrey Parents, not far off; and said, her business was to seek some good service, for that her Father being lately prest a Souldier for the Wars of *Egypt*, had left her to the world, to procure her own subsistence; with that wept, as if her necessities were yet more pressing than she was willing to express by words. *Cloria*, being wholly overcome by a Noble passion, reflecting upon the youth and beauty of the maid, accompanied with the fearful bashfulness of her demeanour, turned her self presently to *Roxana*, and desired her that she would be so charitable, as to entertain the girl as a new servant, because without her Mothers approbation, as she said, she could not admit her to be one of her own attendants; which however *Roxana* for some time resisted, as being unwilling in a strange Countrey to burden her self with the augmentation of her train; yet by the powerful importunity of the Princess, at last she dispenced so far with her rigid providence, as to admit of *Aminta* for one of her followers. This gave occasion to the maid presently to fall down upon her knees, whereby humbly to acknowledge the

the favour at no less a rate, than the preserving of her reputation, if not the saving of her life ; since, as she confessed, she knew not what friends to flie too for succour or counsel : withall, uncovering the basket that rested upon her Arm, wherein was discovered variety of choice fruits, she presented them as a token of her service and gratitude to the fair Princess, beseeching her she would be pleased to accept of such dainties, as the place of her Fathers habitation did afford ; that however, as she said, might be enriched by her taste, to prove of a greater value than they seemed : then retiring again with so becomming a modesty, that the Court breeding in the comely maid, appeared only to have put on a Countrey attire, which made them wonder at her behaviour with an extraordinary delight.

But the lateness of the evening gave *Roxana* warning to solicit *Cloria* to retire, lest the falling of the dew might either injure her health, or prejudice her complexion, which for the present afforded only conveniency of discourse in the way, though the Princess afterward was never well, but when she had the maid in her company : And this in time so increased her affection, that she made her in a manner her only play-fellow ; scarce delighting in any conversation but in young *Aminta's*, whose countenance and actions put on such a grave sadness and respective diligence, that as of one side she seemed only desirous to please her Mistress, so of the other she appeared too serious for the worlds conversation ; but the Princess, finding by *Aminta's* frequent sighs, that something more than a natural sadness, or a dutiful respect possessed her thoughts, she not only oftentimes enquired of the cause of her grief, but narrowly look'd into the demeanour of her Governness, whose

whose severity she might fear, had procured some discontent in her gentle bosome. Yet, being not able to extort from the Maid her self any confession, and also *Roxana* assuring her, that no hard usage of hers, caused her melancholy, *Cloria* one day resolved to try her uttermost skill, whereby to be informed of the secret mystery of *Aminta's* sad expressions; and the rather, for that her complexion seemed something to suffer in this concealment, or at leastwise so interpreted by her thoughts.

Wherefore one day she commanding her to attend her person, into a certain walk neer the house, where she was accustomed often to take her recreation, it being a place defended from the heat of the Sun, and the violence of the windes, by the natural situation of a pleasant Grove of Trees; the Princess being there, arrived seated her self upon a little rising bank, which art appeared to have raised for such a purpose, whilst in the mean time *Aminta* stood by her in respective attendance. But *Cloria* rather aiming at the execution of her intention, than the reverence of her Servant, according to her usual custom when no body was present, commanded her to those familiarities she was most delighted withall, which was to sit down by her, since youth is better pleased with freedom in conversation, than state-reservednesse in actions. When she had thus placed her self, the Princess, without many circumstances in words (for that her passion to be resolved, as it should seem, was too violent to be delayed) conjured her by her own Duty, and that Love she bore her, which if she proved over obstinate, as she said, might be lost, to discover unto her the cause of her sadness, or grief, which her frequent sighes sufficiently expressed to be engrafted in her soul, proceeding from
some

some hidden reason not yet revealed. *Aminta* by the Princess's importunity, whose love and severity seemed prettily woven together, after a few tears mixt with many pauses, and two or three deep sighes, as if her tongue were afraid to become a Traytor to her heart in the discovery, uttered these words.

Most fair Princess, said she, let the Gods be onely blamed, if I am compelled to say, it is no other than your self that causeth my smart. *Cloria* finding an Answer so much against her expectation, and much more intention, could not chuse but look her full in the face, though with a kind of silent reproof, as if she rather yet excused her own ignorance, than accused *Aminta's* suspicion; but the Maid redoubling her words, like a fierce Tyrant with multitude of blows, when he had his Enemy at his mercy: Nay, said she, you have cruelly, as I fear, conspired my life; and which is worse, no Physick can be applied to my wounded Soul, but what remedies your self shall bring; like the Scorpion, that onely heals, what hurt his sting procured. *Cloria* being amazed at these expressions; *Aminta*, after some pause again, uttered this Language. Know dear *Cloria*, that *Narcissus* cannot live without the conversation of his admired and beloved Mistress, which onely hath caused this strange Metamorphosis before your eyes, to be turned to a more deadly form, if you cruelly deny the grace that I humbly require. By this Rhetorick the Princess was sufficiently informed of her Patient: however, for some time she rested silent, until at last she desired to know how he could excuse his absence to his Father. *Narcissus* quickly answered, that pretending a journey into *Syria*, to be better instructed in the fashions and customs and of that Court, he had procured leave to travel for some while, though he

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intended to make no farther a voyage than to her beautilous self, in which school all excellency and content, as he said, was to be perfectly learned; then held his peace with such a begging look, that *Cloria* had scarce power to contradict: until with tears in her fair eyes, she after some small silence used these words:

Dear *Narcissus*, said she, for so I must call you, in that you have endeavoured to merit that name at my hands; though I cannot but reprove the over-boldness of your attempt, since thereby it should seem, you have mis-interpreted all my favours; having so little respect to my honour, as that you have borrowed this false disguise, to satisfy your pretended passion, which the world will neither excuse in you, nor allow in me, if it be once known, how you were secretly entertained by my allowance, in the habit of a Country-maid: yet to let you see how charitable I am, notwithstanding your transgression, I freely forgive the fault past, so you will now repent, and make satisfaction, in your returning speedily again from whence you came, not giving me further occasion to be jealous of my never-yet-suspected modesty; this being said, she ended with such a look, as shewed plainly she spake against the desires of her own heart. But *Narcissus*, who could put no less a difference between his admittance and denial, than a most unkind and cruel banishment, told her, that if she had a will to destroy him, she might enjoyn that penance, since he was resolved to abstain from all natural food unless he should be fed in her presence, by the sight of her perfections; and with that cast down his eyes with so sorrowful a look upon the ground, as if he sought nothing but a grave, since he could not enjoy the life of her conversation.

Cloria,

Cloria, after she had attentively beheld him, and then look'd up at the heavens, as if from thence she expected supernatural assistance; and again rested silent, with abundance of tears gushing violently from her fair eyes, at last broke out into these imprecations: that if ever by any accident, his being with her in a disguised habit, came to be revealed to the knowledge of the world, she vowed by some means or other to become her own executioner, as a bloody testimony of her absolute chaste intentions; in the meantime, she told him, to satisfy his pleasures, he was too cruel to exact from her such desperate conditions.

Narcissus, scarce hearing what she said, being transported with such a joy, as religious men use to possess in extasies, not only having broken through the discovery, but in being so beyond his hopes accepted, began to grow bold in his felicity, in so much as he could not forbear, to imprint loves character upon her fair lips, untill she in a grave disdain, to he so assaulted by his presumption, not only commanded him in a severe look to keep at a farther distance, but withall told him, that he had already so exceedingly provoked her just anger, that it was capable to destroy those small sparkles of love, which charity had kindled in her compassionate bosom; And with that hastily rose from her seat, with such another blush, as inflamed *Diana's* bashful modesty, to become cruelly revengeful; which presently turned the youth, into an immovable posture, scarce knowing whether he breathed or no. The sudden coming of *Roxana* to seek the Princess gave no time at all for expostulation, that absolutely left *Narcissus* to converse only with his own despair, since she and her Governess went presently to visit the sick Queen.

However

However the Princess *Cloria*, though she used not those familiarities with her play-fellow *Aminia*, (being over jealous of her own honour) as she was accustomed, yet she forbore not still to command her service upon all occasions, and with gentle smiles would often shew, she was not unrecoverably displeased with her, for her late passionate attempt, though she totally avoided her company in privat; which was the reason that frequently she and *Roxana*, would walk to a certain cliff by the Sea side, where was a grove of Cypres-trees, that afforded a convenient shade, to protect their conversation from the Sun or Winds violence; whilst in the mean time they might with what liberty they pleased, behold the ships that entered the Haven not far off that place. And this delight, one day above the rest, not only invited the Princess *Cloria*, in the cool of the day to the accustomed recreation; but caused her to desire her Governess that she would hear her play of her Lute, to try whither by the occasion of her journey, she had not for want of practice, lost that little skill she formerly had; which being accompanied by her excellent voice, that uttered this Ditty, in a manner ravished the old woman into a humour of *Platonick* love, since her yeers were scarce capable of other heat:

*Love to perfection doth aspire,
When Lovers melt without a fire;
And purely joyne,
Their wills in one,
All grosser actions to refine.*

*Such contracts made, as these, may be
Esteem'd a blessed unity,
Since hearts will kiss,
In happiness,
As by some influence divine.*

*Thus may we court with tongue and eyes,
And interchange delight in smiles;
Yet never own
Those pleasures known,
That beasts, as well as we may prize.*

*For whilst we do but thus imbrace,
The beauties of a mind or face,
We only woo,
As spirits do,
In raptures more to sympathise.*

*If that two Lutes be tun'd alike,
As we the strings of either strike,
Every ear
Will quickly hear,
The other answer to the sound.*

*So Lovers should accorded be,
By such a powerful mysterie,
That never they
Should do or say,
But what reciprocal were found.*

Roxana after the song was ended, to shew she carried about with her certain remnants of flesh and blood, fell in dispute with the Princess, about the idleness, as she termed it, of such a pretended passion, that seems to make conversation solely the period

of lovers desires, whereas nature requires as well a satisfaction of the body, as the minde: nor is that lawfull pleasure denied mortals (as she said) by the pure heavens, that ordained man and woman to enjoy one another, to produce again creatures of the same kinde, to people and continue the world, which else would quickly perish. I, said *Gloria*, but that love which you mention, which fixeth the pleasure in the body, is meerly brutish; since the soul seemeth not to have the principal fruition; especially when there wants a sympathy in the contemplative part, that ought to render it divine; Divine, said *Roxana*, how can it be so termed? when it was instituted to procure humane effects: for else you might as well place your affections upon your Sister, as upon the servant you love, who may perhaps equal him in all other respects, but in the Sex only: and what serveth the diversity of the Sexes, but to perform those actions, which one of your own Sex cannot accomplish? nay, put case, said *Roxana*, that you were fitted with a companion, that had all perfections in his soul that might render your mind and conversation satisfied, yet if his body were either aged or deformed, I pray consider what delight you would take in such society? It is true said *Gloria*, because naturally we take pleasure in beauty, which would not appear in a person of that condition, and so consequently could not content the eye that is a sense also curious to be satisfied. Why then Madam, said she, I will only make this comparison, to confute all your forced arguments so much against your conscience: put case my Lord *Narcissus*, whom I know you love with all your heart, were by some miraculous decree, to be turned into a beautifull Maid, would not you be sorry in your soul at the conversion, although he retained still

still the same faculties in his mind, of wit, judgment, and goodness? With that *Cloria* blusht, yet not so much because she found her self overcome in that which touch'd her to the quick, but because at the instant, she reflected upon the metamorphosis of *A-minta*, who so lively represented the comparison, although ignorantly alleged by the old woman; but what answer it would have produced, cannot be known, for they were both interrupted, by the sudden appearing, (contrary to their expectation, and to their no small amazement) of an unseemly company of Mariners and Sea Souldiers, who as quickly (with a silent horror & an unresistable power) seized the persons of *Cloria* and *Roxana*, and after some small circumstance carried them into a little ship-boat lying neer the shoar, which as speedily as they could, they put from Land with long Poals, until they had set it free, as they conceived, from all surprize of the neighbouring *Island*; during which interim, *Cloria* was too much overcome with fear and trembling, either to understand what they did, or to enquire what they meant, until she was sufficiently awakened out of her Trance by a more lamentable object: for she might behold her poor Governess, lying bound in a miserable posture at the lower end of the boat, ready as she heard by their discourses, to be suddenly flung overboard, because as they pretended, they were unwilling to burden themselves with an unnecessary incumbrance, not daring to put to Land again to set her on shoar, for fear of being apprehended; besides they were in doubt, if she should be returned to the *Island*, she might be a means of their pursute in discovering their robbery.

Wherefore *Cloria*, without any regard at all of her

her Dignity, or care of those dainty limbs that were natures perfect workmanship, flew suddenly from the place where she was, as if her abundant compassion had made her altogether insensible of her present misfortune; and violently breaking thorow the ring of those people, which stood about one that seemed by his gesture, but not by his apparel, to be in more authority than the rest, and casting her self upon her knees, with many tears uttered this language:

If ever you tasted the milk of woman towards your education? if ever you honoured that Sex for your mothers sake that bare you? if you can be less cruel to humanity because your selves live? or if you intend the Gods shall ever shew mercy unto you in this world or in the next, leave off your barbarous resolution against this aged woman, whom nature her selfe without more violence, must needs e're long destroy: but if your harsh dispositions cannot be mollified by a Virgins prayers, let me first be sacrificed, that mine eyes may not behold the wretched destruction of my dear fostermother, who from my infancy hath brought me up with respectfull love, having often preserved me from many dangers by her diligent care. And this being said, she poured forth a shower of tears, as a charitable testimony that her heart accompanied her words in the request.

The barbarous Judge of *Roxana's* life, seeing himself entreated by so sweet an Advocate, & with an humility answerable to his own rude pride, which rather mollified his Tygers bosome, than perswaded his reason to become humane, after some pause, in imperious words bid her rise; then having consulted with the rest of his companions, he told her that her sute was granted, so far as to have a reprieve for her

Governess, until they were both presented unto the Admiral of their Fleet, who lay not at any great distance from that place, expecting their speedy return, which would determin as he said his own Commission, since he was only put in command to execute the service he had already performed; And with that gave direction to have the boat hasted to the ships, which was accomplished within an hours space, though before their arrival the Sun had already hid his face below the horizon, as if ashamed to behold so great a misfortune. The Princess *Cloria* was quickly brought into the Captains Cabin, where himself sitting upon his bed, scarce rose to give her a civil salutation; however, she being more mindfull of *Roxana's* danger than of her own unhappiness, presently begg'd the life and releasement of her Governess; which gave an occasion to the proud Admiral, not only something to compassionate her earnestness, but to be more inflamed with her beauty; and these thoughts continued him some time in a silent muse, untill of a sudden he brake out into this language: Is it possible the earth can produce such becoming perfections in sorrow? and with that presently commanded not only the old woman to be absolutely released from her bonds, but to be forthwith returned to accompany her Mistress, where he left them both in his own lodging, whilst himself went to give some necessary order in the ships.

Cloria, although she was something satisfied, to have again the conversation of her Governess, whom she esteemed almost lost, yet (considering the miserable estate she was in, to be under the power of such a barbarous captivity; separated in this violent way from the protection of her dear Mother, who could not as she conceived, but almost dy with sorrow and

grief, when she should either be advertised of the particulars of her mis-fortune, or not know what was become of her;) began this complaint: Alas *Clorinda*, said she, what have been thy offences to the immortal Gods, to plunge thee in these exquisite miseries, not possible in a manner to be suffered by humane nature? was it not sufficient to be separated from thy Father and Countrey, wherein thou enjoyedst both safety and honour, being condemned as it were, in the company of thy Mother, to a voluntary banishment, rather than endure the affronts of thy Fathers persecutors? but of a sudden to be deprived of that joy was only left thee, and be cast into a power more cruel than Tigers, and more inhumane than wild people? and with this wrung her delicate hands, with such expressions of passion, that *Roxana* was forced for some time to leave her thoughts, whereby to apply remedies to her Mistris grief.

Madam, said she, if the Gods could at any time be justly taxed for their permission of injuries upon innocents, certainly at this present they merit reproof beyond example, since the wrong is done to so high a goodness as the world again can scarce parallel; but seeing their inscrutable decrees are not to be searched into by weak mortality, without such a reverence as must only pray for redress, it is far more available to our present condition, to consider with patience what is best to be done, than to seem rebellious to their wils, in not well suffering what cannot be otherwise prevented, which at leastwise may bring with it forgiveness of our sins, if not consolation of our punishments; since for the most part afflictions in this world, are only sent us to correct our stubborn nature, making us more fit for the Gods
mer-

mercies; & not absolutely to destroy us, by rendring us subjects for their severe justice; for truly, as I cannot believe, but that they have reserved for your goodness a particular protection; so of the other side I am confident, that when the chastisement, or rather I may say the tryal of your singular virtues, is past, the instruments of your present punishment will be cast into the fire, & you not at all prejudiced by the suffering, unless you prove more obstinate, or impatient, than you should be. Besides, you ought to consider, you are *Euarchus* Daughter, a Prince of such excellent parentage and blood, that the least dejection of spirit, notwithstanding the greatest misfortune, would degenerate you from your birth and education; and yet no way lessen the misery of your captivity; though I would not have your quality come to the knowledge of these inhumane Pirates, for augmenting the price of your redemption, since covetousness is the only deity they serve, and the sole period of their pains; wherefore, I beseech you to put off so much of your confused grief, that may preserve your health, and render you more capable of counsel, whereby we may the better study your safety, and both our freedoms: and with that took her in her arms, where she held her, until her loving endeavours had rockt her into a quiet slumber, which continued for most part of the night: by this *Roxana* had liberty in the mean time, the better to converse with her own wit and judgement, how to finde means for their speedy delivery: sometimes she thought, of presenting those Jewels they had concealed about them to the admiral; then to dispatch speedily a messenger into *Cyprus*, to give notice of their condition: But as the first seemd dangerous by reason it would stir up greater appetites, of farther gain in the covetous

Captain, and never a whit the more secure their liberty; so the other, as she thought, would never be granted by his suspicion, for fear of being discovered, and consequently pursued by some other great Fleet: These things continued her thoughts in a perplexed intricacy until the next night following, when *Roxana* began a little to close her eyes, being tired with too much care and watching, that she might suddenly perceive a Woman by the help of a burning lamp, softly stealing into the Cabin, whose face spake beauty, though her looks pretended horror; which accompanied with the uncouthness of the season, at leastwise so interpreted by her fearful apprehension, gave her sufficient cause of doubt of some ill intentions, either to her self or *Cloria*: But the party quickly finding by *Roxana*'s countenance, a suspicion of her meaning, abruptly saluted her in this manner; after she had seated her self upon a little form, opposite to her beds head.

Lady, said she, although you may put on wonder at my seeming preposterous approach, yet I should be sorry to procure your disturbance by my presence, since my intention is to do you acceptable service, though I am now designed to a worse end; but first you must understand my unhandsome story, for your more confidence: Then know, I am a *Syrian* born; and being, some years past in my Fathers house, a rich Merchant of *Damascus*, I fell in Love with a Gentleman of the same Town, of no great possessions; however my passion continued so violent, that I was resolved, against the good will of all my Friends, to make him my Husband; in prosecution of which, without much circumstance, we watched an Opportunity to crown our Affections, by enjoying one another, before the ceremonious rights be-

belonging to sacred Mariage were performed in *Hymens* Temple; which perhaps too much exasperated the Gods, and caused my misfortunes: For being carelesse to delude the watchful and spightful spies of the house of my Father, one night when we least look'd for his presence, he was brought to be an eye-witnesse of our imbracements; at which sight, my Lover being possessed with a desperate rage to be so surprized, suddenly leapt out of his naked bed, to prevent his own apprehension, since the fact was no lesse than death in him, by the rigid and unkind Lawes of *Syria*; but being stopt at the door, by my Fathers fury, he quickly flew to the protection of his sword, that was not far off his unhappy reach; and seeing by no intreaty he could perswade passage, he made forcible way through my Fathers life, so escaped all their endeavours, by his present flight; which, as you may believe, was a sufficient torment to my perplexed mind, for that every Ballad of the Town sung my shame, and my Lovers cruelty; and this quickly caused me to seek another habitation, though the wealth that was left me, as being Heir, might in some sort have bought my quiet. With these thoughts I put to sea, carrying along with me such moveables, as I could handsomly dispose of to that purpose, with an intention if it were possible, in this posture, to find out the aboad of my banished Lover; or else, in some unknown place to set up the station of mine own rest: But my unhappy Fates, rather reflecting upon my former crime, than my present misery, never left persecuting me with contrary windes and storms, until they put me into the absolute possession of these merciless Pirates, where ever since I have lived, the abused Strumpet of the Captains lust, though flattered alwayes, not onely with the hope,
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but promise of a speedy Mariage ; these protestations, continued me until now, reasonably well satisfied : but since your surprizal, you must know, he hath cast his burning affection upon the more rare beauty of the Princess *Cloria*, though he dares not openly own the Love, because there is so strong a faction in the Ship against the design ; for that they put on a resolution to present the Lady to *Osirus*, the Kings Son of *Egypt*, whereby the better to procure their own Pardons, for those Robberies they have committed upon his shore, having been in time past, his natural Subjects : to this purpose, the better to compass, though to colour his desire, he hath employed me as an instrument to your self, supposing you have an absolute interest with the Princess, to perswade her, by a disguise he wil provide, to convey her self to morrow night, out of this ship into another of more fidelity, which shall carry her to a Castle belonging to his Command ; from whence he vows, though untruly, she shall be returned safe to her Friends and Country ; pretending he neither dares trust her, or himself, in the *Egyptian* power. But I, finding he hath an intention to deal false with me, after my dishonour, I have also deceived him, and made some of the contrary faction acquainted with his passions ; who will be sure to prevent his purposes, since they do not onely hate him, for his injustice towards themselves, in distributing unequally those booties, wch have been from time to time gotten by Piracy, but now in seeking to hinder, by his privat love, so fortunat an occasion to procure all their pardons. Scarce had she delivered thus much, but the Captain, like some furious wild Beast (having over-heard her discourse, by a privat whilsperring place, he had out of his own lodging,

lodging, into the other Cabin where *Cloria* rested) came into the room with his sword drawn, first killing the Woman with his looks, and after forced the weapon to perform the rest; which not onely suddenly awakened the sweet Princess, but with horreur of the spectacle, soon forced *Roxana* out of the Cabin with fearful shriekes, that presently with a confused distraction call'd up all the company in the ship.

In the mean time, whilst all of them were laying hold of such weapons as came next to their hands, to defend themselves against they knew not what danger, the Captain addrest him to the amazed Princess, in this Language: Lady, said he, you see here plainly the force of Love, that can remove any obstacle that doth oppose it; since the punishment of this treacherous Woman, by my just hand, is a sufficient testimony of my violent affection. But poor *Cloria* was so far from understanding what he meant, (apprehending also the horrid spectacle of the dead body, which lay before her eyes) that instead of making him any reply tending to his satisfaction, she shewed him her naked breast, wishing him to dispatch her presently, that she might not undergo many torments by his cruelty. The Captain of the other side, being transported with that taking object, instantly flung away his sword, and kneeling down by her bed, as if he intended to sacrifice to some Deity, gently fixt a kiss, with his impure lips, upon that more than white Altar; continuing in this posture, until *Roxana's* cries had brought to the Door many of the Pirates; who, with a tumultuous noise, not onely entred, but finding the dead Carcase of the slaughtered Woman, and also the suspected demeanour of the Admiral, by reason of that information they had
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formerly received of the dead Strumpet, concerning his privat Love to the Princess *Cloria*, suddenly threatned him with this Language : Villain, said they, was it not enough injustice in thee, to have oftentimes, by thy imperious commands, defrauded us of the equal distribution of such prizes we had gotten at Sea? but to endeavour also to deceive us of our hopes of our pardons, by the ravishment of the fair Princess, which is a present we intend to *Osirius*, to redeem our lives and liberties, and render us again possessors of our native Country, from whence we have been so long banished, under thy proud jurisdiction?

The Captain, being not able to support this sharp reproof from his base Vassals, of a sudden leapt to his sword that lay upon the ground, and when he had it in his hand, flew among them like a Tiger, calling to his ayd such in the ship as were faithful to his faction, which ere long procured a most bloody encounter; for what the Admirals party wanted in number, they supplied in courage, so that the Fight a great while seemed to be equal; wherein the uncouthness of the season, added horreur to the slaughters; augmented also by the cries of dying and wounded persons, with the whistling of the winds, that appeared to contend with the Seas in a new combat; but at last, the Captain himself being slain, a sudden despair seized the remaining company, in so much as they all either fled to seek refuge into dark corners of the ship, or yielded to the mercy of the Conquerours; who putting the head of their late Lord upon a Spear, crying Liberty, shewed it to the people of the other Vessels, not far off; and presently sent a Messenger, not onely to inform them of their proceedings, and just judgement against their tyrannical Master,

Master, but to desire a conference, how they might best dispose of their affaires to procure all their pardons.

During the Conflict, the Princess *Cloria* as it were transported beyond all degrees of amazement, rather conceived her self to be in a terrible dream, than the beholder of such inhumane actions, lay as it were without motion, untill *Roxana*, who had newly broke through the confused crowd, came into the Cabin to give her dear Lady some consolation. After she had a little driven away her fears, and comforted her hopes with couragious Language, she not onely recounted unto her all the particulars of the fight, and the occasion thereof, but informed her of the resolution of the Pirates, which was, instantly to convey her into *Egypt*, and to put her into the protection of *Osirus*,

Cloria, when she had spent some time in tears, sighs, and silence, at last uttered these words: O *Roxana*, said she, we may perceive that the Gods are angry with us, and therefore the success of our fortunes cannot be but doubtful; however, we may be delivered from this barbarous captivity, and committed into more Noble hands; for I fear that *Osirus* will never forget the injuries that have been done unto him, for the loss of his great fleet upon the *Ionian* shore, though my Father himself was betrayed to the action; nor forbear with violence to solicit his old proposed Love, by my Grandmother Queen *Anaxia*; which either must absolutely destroy my intentions to poor *Narcissus*, or put me in some desperate prevention; since his thoughts cannot be so low, as to suffer himself to be undervalued, by a captive that hath he in his power; upon which ground, I suppose the Pirates have taken their Resolutions. These were reasons sufficient to have converted *Roxana*, although

although she had been of another opinion ; however, being more willing to apply balm, than corrasives, to the wound that was already made, only returned her answers of hope, and not replies of despair to entertain her imagination, until the thieves resolutions, within two daies and a nights sail, the winds seeming in the mean time to play with their intentions, had brought them safely into the river of *Nilus*, and so consequently soon landed them, with their rich prize, at the City of *Memphis*, where *Osirius* the Prince then kept his Court.

But the Heavens being not pleased that so valuable a Jewel should be the price to buy the redemption of so vile offenders, the Pirats, were presently apprehended, and not only in recompence of their many robberies, but also of their late murder committed, without form of Law upon their Captain, were put to death with several torments, as an example of terror to their imitators ; whilst in the mean time the Princess *Cloria*, was with all honour conveyed to lodgings prepared for her in the Castle.

Yet one day, being alone with *Roxana*, and reflecting not only upon the horrid danger she had past, when she was in the absolute power of the rude Pirats ; but considering what a heaven of felicity, her outward sense seemed to be acquainted withall, now she was in the glorious Palace of *Osirius*, King almost of all *Africa*, where every one appeared ready to comply with her pleasure, as she understood by the command of their great Master, she could not but with some pensiveness think upon the sudden change of her fortune ; for weighing the ticklishness of her own state, that had in so short a time, woven her thoughts and loves, into so many hopes and fears, it began to raise in her some doubt of her yet safety ;
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and considering that the *Egyptians* had received too many affronts, to be heartily affected to the *Lydians*, she could interpret *Osirus* kindness but two wayes: either that he bore a Noble mind, beyond example, notwithstanding her Countreys seeming injuries; or else, that he had some underhand design to compass, which made him gild over his intentions with an outward humanity, whereby the better to obtain his ends, or render his revenge more terrible; which at last made her break through her silence, by this discourse to her Governess.

What the Gods have determined of us *Roxana*, said she, their only divine wisdoms must measure out in time, & we with patience and reverence are to attend the issue of their decrees; for if in any kind they seem to smile upon our condition, we should entertain the blessings with a joyful humility, rather using them as necessary refreshments of human nature, than esteeming them determinable substances of our absolute happiness, since pleasures here are neither perfect in their delights, nor certain in their continuance: so of the other side, if rough misfortunes at any time overwhelm that calm which we covet, we ought piously to take them as deserved chastisements, to keep under the proud rebellions of our perverse nature (that else might swell to our perpetual destruction) sent rather to cure our diseases, than to encrease our maladies; and in this consideration, no doubt, we may safely walk, in all the various accidents of the inferiour world: however, though reason dictates to our understanding, this just and religious course, yet we cannot be without all natural and human passion. Wherefore, as in the first place, with some joy we may consider *Roxana*, this unexpected change of entertainment; from a horrid cap-

captivity amongst thieves, to a most civil honour in *Osirius* Court; for though the one had no cause, but gain, to make them our enemies; yet the other hath reason, by received injuries, not to be our friends: so of the other side, I must confess, an undigested lump of suspicion, seems to oppress my fearful thoughts; what may be the intention of our fates: though, I vow by the immortal Gods, rather to shew an exemplary hate upon my own life, than consent to give away that faith I have determined to absent *Narcissus*; & with those words, a sweet shower of tears burst from the heaven of her eyes, capable to teach the earth a new beauty in sorrow, silently enriching her handkerchief with the pearls that fell; which gave occasion to *Roxana* (after she had some time with a little seeming admiration weighed the discreet Rhetorick of the Princess) to return her this answer.

Madam, said she, though I cannot believe the Gods have any other determination, than the absolute prosperity of your vertuous self, since they cannot place their benefits upon a more deserving subject; yet oftentimes they are pleased to mix their mercies with chastisements; not only to render us more capable of their favours by possessing us with humble souls, but also by that means to make them taste better when we receive them to their honour. For as the works of the divine Creator are wonderful in their effects, so they ought to be grateful in their reception, since they proceed from an omnipotent goodness; and if at any time they appear to us, either vain, or unjust, it is the ignorant indulgence of our own frailty, that makes us either falsely interpret them, or passionatly wish them otherwise: for as humane nature loves it self best, & therefore consequently covets its own satisfaction, above all other things; so
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of the other side, the great God that made us only for his glory, will not admit, of such a rebellion in our thoughts and actions to be unpunished, much less to be rewarded; and therefore he puts oftentimes a stop to our idle desires, by a sharp restriction of our wils, when they swell beyond the bounds of duty and thankfulness towards him, that of nothing formed us and can make us worse when he pleaseth; for the chief error of our impatience is, that we take our selves more framed for our own sakes, than for his service; whereas, if we would imploy all our endeavours, towards the true end of our creation, we should neither miss of an absolute reward hereafter, nor undergo here the irksomness of perturbations; since the intention would enflame the minde to higher desires, than meerly flesh and blood can reach unto, that apprehended but present and sensual things. Nay farther, if we do but truly consider, how little satisfactory the best of pleasures is, as you even now said (having neither any certainty in the enjoyment, nor perfect delight in the fruition) man would esteem himself no other than mad, so violently to hunt after worldly things; which Madam, I hope are arguments sufficient, both to confirm the former part of your discourse, and to diswade you to put in execution the later, if accidents should make war against your virtue. But as her words were brought to this period, they were both informed that *Osirus* was coming to visit the Princess, so that *Cloria* had no opportunity left her to reply, scarce for preparation to receive such a stranger.

When *Osirus* entred the room, he made his approach in a formal garb; according to the *Egyptian* manner; his looks putting on Majesty, though his cloaths humility, and notwithstanding he used complements

in his words, yet *Cloria* might find by his language he knew he was Lord of her liberty; withall intimating, that she received honour in being in the custody of so great a Prince; however, it was his desire, as he said, to make her in a kind not only her own Gaoler, but his Mistress; and with that turned his eyes upon his followers, as if he expected unapprobation, by their applause; which gave *Cloria* some liberty to study for an answer, conceiving her thoughts absolutely necessary, since the subject of his discourse, so little pleased her fearful apprehension; wherefore after some time employed in a trembling silence, with a humility answerable to that power he had over her person, she made him this reply.

My Lord, said she, although I cannot but thank my fortune, for having delivered me into so noble hands, where honour and virtue seem to be partners, in the making up an absolute greatness in your person; yet I must needs believe, liberty would have afforded me much more cause of content, since it is a humane misery to be imprisoned, though it be in a golden Tower; for nothing endued with life and motion, but certainly covers a freedom in its own dispose, rather than to be captied of any rate; and especially man, that is inspired with a reasonable soul, whose apprehension is its greatest torment; and therefore delights not to be circumscribed by any power, how just or mighty soever. But since it is my destiny to fall under that misfortune, the world, I conceive could not have bestowed upon my condition, a more gracious and noble Lord; and in that only I reckon my self an object of envy to other inferior Captives, not doubting, but my continued usage, will not only confirm me still in the same belief, but oblige me both with thanks and prayers, to express my gratitude for so high a favour

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This reply of the Princess so well pleased the vain humour of *Osirus*, (imagining, that although she understood not altogether his meaning, yet she had will enough to comply with his desire) that instantly he commanded all the company out out of the chamber; with an intention belike, to deliver his thoughts more freely unto her: but she neither knowing what he intended, nor was ever accustomed to be left alone with strangers of a contrary sex, presently at the apprehension grew so pale, that it was easily perceived by *Osirus* that her heart entertained some jealous fear of her honour; wherefore he caused *Roxana* to stay, not only, as he said, to be wished companion to her Mistress, but a faithfull witness of his own actions: and then turning up his mouchatos as a preamble to his discourle, as if he meant to gain by the posture, a mightier esteem of his person in *Clorias* opinion converted his talk to her after this manner.

Lady, said he, as the Gods can witness the truth of my affection, so the world can give sufficient testimony of my worth; and though, as Lord by my power, I might command; yet, as a slave, for your sake, I am content to beg: beg (said he) O you heavens, that I should so descend! and smil'd scornfully with these words, as if he thought he had infinitely injured his greatness, by the Courtship, however, he went on with this language; let it suffice, said he that mighty *Osirus* loves the fairest *Cloria*, a beauty only worthy of that love, that Queens have often coveted with ambition. But scarce had he delivered thus much, when a messenger in hast entred the chamber, and told him that young *Philos* the Nephew of *Philostros* had lately given an absolute overthrow to the *Egyptian* Army, in a set battel, and

was now with expedition marching towards the walls of *Memphis*; which misfortune, as he said, not only required his command for direction, but his valour for prevention, since the danger appeared too evident.

Osirus, after some time of amazement, instead of consideration, after he had a little put off his own distractions, told *Cloria*, that these were but trifling victories, to what his invincible courage to a sharper revenge; and assured her, his next present should be *Philos* head laid at her feet, as the true witness of his valour, instead of a more proper Sacrifice to the prosperity of their future loves. And as he continued these rodomontados, he was intercepted by the whole assembly of the City, who informed him it was not time to be amorous, when *Memphis* was in apparent danger to be lost; which abruptly pluckt him away from his bragging Courtship, to the infinite content of poor *Cloria*; supposing her self by this means, freed from the plague of her thoughts since she imagined, this accident would give *Osirus* endeavours sufficient imployment, and hinder them from entertaining his fancies, with those desires she was resolved he should never enjoy. Yet *Roxana*, apprehending still a dark cloud of trouble to hang over their heads, by reason of *Osirus* seeming passion, or at least pretended love; after a grave silence, in reproof of *Cloria's* too much joy, gave her Mistress advice in this sort, better to prepare her against another encounter.

Although this hatefull Lover, said she, be a torment to your thoughts, and his expressions be no other than reasons against the love you bear *Narcissus*; yet such is the necessity of the time, and the power of your captivity, that either you must force your will

to comply with *Oſirus*, if he proſecute his affections, or diſſemble ſo far your intentions, as to give him ſome hope of your conſent; for it is not to be doubted, but this Prince is as high in his pride, as mighty in his command, which may at laſt fly to a deperate requital, if he ſhould be any way ſcornfully rejected; ſince it is evident, his people have taken notice of his endeavours, not only by the firſt propoſition, which was the occaſion of your Grandmothers journey into *Lydia*, that ſo much exaſperated your fathers ſubjects; but in his now intimation of his deſires, before his ſervants, with ſuch extravagant vain glory; and how eaſie it is for him to have pretexts for any cruelty he ſhall uſe, may be conſidered in theſe particulars; Firſt, for your fathers diſdainfull reſuſing of his Aunt, after the marriage was in a manner concluded, and laſtly the loſs he ſuſtained upon the *Ionian* ſhoar, by the deſtruction of the ſuppoſed invincible Fleet, he ſent to reduce *Cyprus* again under his obedience. Wherefore be aſſured, if you diſgrace him by an abſolute reſuſal, he will ſtrive to diſhonour you by an equal violence, when both the object and the opportunity give him the occaſion, not to be avoided by your induſtry; and love, when it is once converted into hate, by contrary accidents, procures for the moſt part, ſad and diſmal examples of revenge; ſince the paſſions, as they are moſt oppoſite, ſo are they equally violent, and one ſeeking to drive out another, cannot but produce ſtrong operations, like the nature of Lightning or Earthquakes, that do not only contend moſt forcibly againſt obſtacles, but are ingendred meerly by diſſentions amongſt the elements. Wherefore, my opinion is, that for the preſent you give way to the fury of his flames, if love be the occaſion of his Courtſhip; which not

being disdained, but gently tempered, may in time be qualified, especially when those great busineses he hath now in hand, shall draw away his thoughts to more necessary imployments. And if it be pride that swells up his resolutions to make you his wife, because he will not be refused in any thing he shall demand, certainly the humour must not be resisted, until you have conveniency to free your self from his jurisdiction, which perhaps may quickly be effected by the issue of these wars; in the mean time your humility and seeming estimation of his worth, will abate the vanity of those fumes, when it shall appear, by some dissembling complements you may use, you are so far off from contemning his offered affection, that you do not think your self worthy of the honour; however, you cannot want excuses to protract his hasty desires, in requiring leasure, not only to render you an absolute lover of his person, as well as the admirer of his greatness; but also, to send to your friends, as a necessary circumstance belonging to your duty and modesty, whose consents you must not seem to doubt, since the alliance conduces so much to your advantage; however, the frantick people of *Lydia* seemed so stubbornly to oppose the first propositions; All which probably will satisfie him for the present, and win time, till either the siege constrain him to render you, with the Town into the hands of *Orsames* your uncle; or the Gods by some other means, be mercifully pleased to provide conveniences for your escape.

However, *Cloria* was scarce contented with counsel, whereby to shew her self so great an hypocrite in her loue; yet the war, in the mean time, took up the imployments of *Osirus*, that he had not leisure or at least will to importune the Princess, to her

no small satisfaction; for he endeavoured by frequent sallies to hinder the approaches of the enemy, which brought on oft-times, most bloody and desperate encounters; wherein the particular valours of many brave Knights appeared to the worlds admiration: This not only continued the siege with a doubtful expectation, but at last compelled *Orsames* in person, with a new power to strengthen his party; *Osrus*, after he had valiantly defended The Town for some moneths, resolved by a general sally, either to dislodge the *Syrians* from being so neer a neighbour to the walls, or to perish in the attempt. Wherefore one night, having before acquainted the chief Commanders with his design, and given a false alarm to the adversaries camp, he issued out of the Town with most of the Nobility; in which posture he set upon *Philostros* quarter, with so much violence and courage, that he not only committed a slaughter worthy of such a resolution, but had infallibly taken the Favorite prisoner, if he had not been prevented, by the valour of a Knight in white armour, who defended his tent with so much courage, that both his forces were repulsed, and himself in danger to be slain, since he lost his head-piece in the conflict: which notwithstanding added wings to the fierceness of the fight; for both parties, enflamed with the desire of victory, the one to make good the progress they had industriously made in the *Syrian* Army; and the other to regain what they had, as they conceive, shamefully lost, appeared desperate of their lives; the horror was also increased by the darkness of the night, leaving no conveniency for defence; and this, in like manner became augmented, by the accidental burning of *Orsames* Camp, in regard the soldiers had no leisure to quench the fire, for the hard im-

ployment the *Egyptians* gave them. These accidents called forth, in a manner, the whole power of *Memphis*; supposing the siege had been finished, by the seeming success of their party, leaving only the women in the interim to guard the walls: but *Philostros*, finding the desperate condition of the Kings Army, if a prevailing resistance were not made; when he had secured *Orsames* person by a strong guard, he commanded upon pain of death, that no man should employ his endeavours to extinguish the fire in the Camp, since, as he thought, it had been kindled by some traitors in the Army, to give his Souldiers employment, whilst the enemy might become victorious; yet he promised them all reparation in their losses, after they had valiantly repulsed the *Egyptians*; who, as he said, were but a handful of men in comparison of *Orsames* powerful Army: with these words, and the assembly of many brave Troops to attend upon his person, he suddenly assailed *Osirius*, as it were triumphing in his success, in so much as he was forced to give back, with a greater slaughter than was convenient for his purpose, or the defence of the Town, though he supposed that night to have made an end of the siege; for finding that not only his expectation was deceived, but his fortunes began to change, he caused the retreat to be sounded, the rather because the approaching day, as he conceived, would endanger the loss of his whole forces, since the enemy far out-numbered his power, having no disadvantage but the night season. *Osirius*, being again retired within the walls of *Memphis*, and having taken a general muster of his people: by which he found himself incapable of more sallies, he resolved from thence forward, only to defend the Bulwarks, with his best policy; whilst in the mean time, *Orsames* also fell to
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the spade : which not only proved something tedious to many brave spirits of both sides , but gave occasion of divers privat combats, wherein were performed acts of honour and delight ; though it was noised in the Town, the white Knight that had disarmed *Osirus*, appeared to be the most perfect Cavalier.

The Princess *Cloria*, that had now a long time been happily freed from the unpleasant Courteship of *Osirus*, retired for her more delight one day into a privat Galery belonging to her own lodgings, which was furnished with so many rare pieces , that the diversity of objects, could not but give employment and recreation to the most dull eyes, much more to those that were beautified with so much natural curiosity, as hers were : she had not before this had any knowledge of the place , being only perswaded thither by the importunity of a seeming officious servant, that belike had only the protection of the room, who presently notwithstanding left her alone, to converse privatly with her own delights. The first picture proved a subject for her serious consideration, for it was the doleful representation of the Story of *Philomela's* ravishment, by her unnatural and cruel Brother-in-law ; wherein she not only with two or three sad sighs, seemed to compassionat the injured Lady ; but with a little apprehension, reflected upon her own state, being also in the power of an inflamed Lover ; whilst she remained, as it were, transported with diversity of thoughts, that were capable to disquiet the gentle bosom of a young virgin, of a sudden she might hear one to unlock a certain secret door behind her, which till then she had not perceived to be in that part of the Galery ; so that the fears that formerly had been ingendred in her
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imagination by the pittiful object she beheld, encreased in her being without any manner of company; and this gave her, as she believed, not only cause to wish her self in her own Chamber, but to be absolutely suspicious of her present safety, since she knew not well where she was; though her terror was grounded upon no other reason, than such as Children use to have when they go in the dark, imagining every noise to be some frightful thing. But long she had not expected the issue, in the mean time making hast to the door where she had entered, but she became distractedly satisfied, of what she most doubted; for *Osirus* appeared suddenly to her view, like some horrid vision; apparrelled in black, that threatned by a confused apprehension, a sad *Omen* to her present condition; yet his habit was beset with divers *Diamonds*, resembling so many Stars, that endeavoured to give light to a dark Firmament.

The Princess, as I said, thus surprized, by him she most feared, when she thought her self freest from all interruption, it was a question whether doubt or amazement layed strongest hold of her senses; though the last passion at length obtained the greater prerogative, by her too much consideration; so that she remained like *Pigmaliions* beautiful Image, that wanted both life and motion: Thus fixed she stood, until *Osirus* (after some time of seeming admiration of her perfections, which he used as a fitting complement) began to make his addresses, as to a fair statue; but she, as it were, carried only with a certain instinct of hatred, or at leastwise dislike, (since for the present she had lost her chief faculties of reason, that should have managed her comportment) strived as fast to retire backward, untill his too hasty pursuit, compelled her to make use of her dainty legs, to
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avoyd his importunity ; like the flying *Daphne* from *Apollo*, which for some space afforded a delightful spectacle, if any had been there to have beheld it, seeing the grave Prince with earnestness chase the fearful Lady ; though he thought it a derogation to his dignity, to hast his steps much beyond the custom of his usual walk , for that it was the fashion of his Countrey, to seem moderat in every trivial affair ; this was an occasion that the course lasted longer than ordinary, since, as he was determined, not to be wrought out of his pace, by the provocations of any passion ; so was she constrained to endure his leisure, for that all the doors of the room denied her passage, to prevent his pursuit. In this manner they continued, until poor *Cloria* had lost that breath, that should have still defended her from being made a prey to his intended Courtship : but he now having her in his absolute possession, first arrested her by the fair hand, as a testimony he had a further commission to impart unto her ; and then began to entertain her ears with amorous language, notwithstanding it was the worst charm he could use, to bring her within the compass of his Circle ; wherefore, before he could utter many words upon that unwelcome theme (in witness, as he pretended, of his burning love) he might feel that curious hand, which in its right temper, seemed at every touch to melt into a thousand beauties, of a sudden became cold, like the coldest Ice ; and such a shivering also he found to possess her fair body, that he thought it was high time to apply real remedies, rather than to continue vain professions. So that, presently taking her in his arms, almost distracted, between his own love and her danger, he never left tormenting her in that manner, until he had again brought her
in

in some sort to her self, w^h made her look upon him with those two admirable lights, (though yet they had not recovered their former lustre) as if she accused his cruelty, for this last part of his care, in seeking to preserve her life, more than for the former act of her unjust imprisonment, since she conceived his intention was 'only to reserve her for a worse end; and then presently shut them again, as if she both feared, and loathed his sight; withall uttering these words, that she hoped the Gods would yet protect her innocent honour against his wild lust. But *Osirius* now having found out the secret of her disease, by her expression; to take from her all occasion of suspicion, he vow'd by all the Deities of Heaven, he had for present no intention to use violence.

Cloria, although she was now pretily well revived, since it was impossible for that extremity long to endure; and also something confident, that his intention at that time only pretended to make love; yet not knowing perfectly how to construe his words, that seemed to imply some reservation in his thoughts; besides, having been formerly instructed by *Roxana's* Counsels, against any desperate denial, or discourteous language, thought best to comply at the present with his humour for her better safety; and therefore gave him most humble thanks for the assurance that her honour should be preserved by his goodness; which, as she said, was the most noble testimony of his love, he could use to a poor virgin, now altogether under his powerful protection. *Osirius*, not only joyful that he had recovered the Princess out of her sound, but proud that her words sounded love to his ears, imagining he had got an intire victory over her thoughts, however some small bashfulness proceeded from her modest nature, which he liked the

the better, were obstacles to hinder the open expressions, after the lively red began again to paint those more than fair cheeks, he took her by the hand, and led her softly to a Couch-chair at the upper end of the gallery, there to repose her self until her distempers were absolutely over : When she was sat, and himself seated neer her, he began to woo her with all his power, vowing her to be the only Mistress of his thoughts, in the way of marriage, though the stile of his language had the resemblance more of a commanding Emperour, than of a begging Lover ; yet to turn the feared Tragedy, to a perfect Comedy, he suddenly rose from the place where he was, and pursu'd all her senses in so antick a manner, with his looks, professions, and actions, that it might have given sufficient cause of delight to *Cloria*, if her heart had been capable of the entertainment of any mirth ; but it did not work from her countenance at the least lovely smile, since her melancholy thoughts were laid asleep in the bed, both of an apprehended danger, and of a despairing sorrow, which cast a kind of a black cloud over all her beauty, though it had not yet the power to obscure the fair feature of her face, but rather, as a dark foyl seemed to give them lustre in the taking apprehension of *Osirus* ; but whether so or no perswaded, because himself was the chief occasion of the overmuch shadow, it might be a question difficult to determine ; however he was absolutely convinced in his opinion, that the bright rayes of his own splendor, had sufficiently conquered the maids affection, which procured from him this discourse.

Sweet *Cloria* (for so I must call you, said he, since my heart desires there, and in that name, to take up
its

its principal habitation) although I intend to lay nothing to your charge, but my love, yet, to let you see the better your own obligations to me for it, I must wish you to consider the many injuries which the *Egyptians* have received from the disaffections of the *Lydians*: not only in the disrespectful refusal of our alliance, by your Father, in his marriage: but in regard of the unparalleled loss of our great fleet upon the *Ionian* coast, when faithful assurance was given for its preservation. And lastly, the spiteful entertainment of Queen *Anaxia*, by your people, when she came with propositions of a match between our selves; so that, if you should now also obstinately contradict my purposes, I might very well judge, you harboured the same hatred in your soul, against our illustrious house, since I am assured my person must needs merit your best affection; and with these words, knitting his brows, he walk'd two or three turns up and down the room, sometimes setting both his hands upon his sides, and then again lifting up his muchatos, with a furious gravity; in so much as poor *Cloria* began again to tremble. But *Osirius*, perceiving her apprehensions troubled, quickly told her, she need not fear; since both her sex, and his own love, were powerful protections to keep her safe; for the one, as he said, concerned his honour, as the other did his affection: yet, he let her know, that in requital of this good, he expected from her the speedy consent of a greater good, which was to be the wife of mighty *Osirius*, for whose love the fairest & greatest Queens of the world had offered Kingdoms.

Cloria, however she found the vanity of *Osirius* pride to to transcend almost all belief, for which she the more disdained him inwardly; yet considering she was in the absolute power of one whose passions might

might soon determine her fate, thought it the safest way, for the present, exactly to follow her Governesses direction, whereby to prevent the danger of her life, & honour more dear than that, notwithstanding his glorious professions, which her apprehensive nature durst not trust; and the rather, for that she conceived he did not mention his received injuries without some intention either of fruition or revenge; Wherefore after a long pause, as if she borrowed leave of modesty to speak her bashful thoughts, she uttered these words.

My Lord, said she, as a captive to your will (which, however my fortune hath made me, and not my crime) it might appear a kind of madness in me, to seem to resist your desire, muchless to dispute those injuries that you say you have received from the *Lydian* State; especially, when I am invited to a free consent of marriage a Noble way, by all the reasons that can promise me a happy condition hereafter; since there is such a concurrence of beauty, valour and greatness, accompanied with so many other virtues in your admired person, to make you not only Lord of me, but revered of all. But yet, for that the best affection is to be perswaded, and not compelled (otherwise it might prove prejudicial to your honour, in my seeming over-light) give me leave, so far to contend against your passion, that I may not yield without such circumstances as before a free election; & to that purpose, do desire sometime of respite, whereby my virgin modesty & knowing judgment, may play befitting parts in the nuptials; otherwise to the eye of the world, it must needs appear forced, since it is to be supposed, you rather detain me as a prisoner, than like a Mistress, w^h also will eclipse the glory of your name, as well as give me perpetual discontent, to
esteem

esteem my self, no other than a ravished wife, though Queen to so mighty a personage: having said thus much, she cast down her fair eyes upon the ground, and wept. Which posture, although it rendred *Osirius* almost a greater Captive than her self, yet it stirred up in him the very desire of a Tyrant, being loath to be limited, notwithstanding her bewitching entreaty; so that for some he sat like the just (though rigid) *Roman*, when he was to pass the sentence of death upon his own Son, overcome by a more mastering passion; till at last, he gave his unwilling consent; and with it instantly took his leave, fargetting belike, by reason of his troubled joy, to prescribe some convenient space for her resolution. However, before his departure, to set up trophees of his own conceived victory, he imprinted a hatred kiss upon her sweet lips, which she received no otherwise, than as some loathsom potion drunk, to avoid a dangerous disease.

After that *Osirius* had thus absolutely quitted the lodgings, to the Princess privacy, she began too seriously to reflect upon her own misfortunes, since the strength of her apprehension, drest all her considerations in Mourning apparel: in the first place, she seemed most bitterly to accuse her self of ingratitude, to the dear love of deserving *Narcissus*, since like a coward, she durst not own it, before the face of any power: next, in a manner, she curst her self, for having given any hope at all to the proud thoughts of her hateful Gaoler, as she esteemed *Osirius*, not knowing, by any means, how to wind her dissimulation out of the engagement; until at last, with the very imagination of what she had done, (although in truth she had done nothing) she was transported so much beyond all patience, that she seemed in a manner distracted,

sted, out of a certain jealousie, that she had yielded
 to some thing, that might destroy her former Love,
 and oblige her to a second: yet she had so much in-
 compassionate sense left, as to be her own cruel tor-
 menter; sometimes tearing her hair, and then again
 beating her Alabaster brest, as if she meant to pu-
 nish her self, for having but onely couzened *Ostirus*
 vain imagination. But being altogether tyred with
 these diversities of passions, which again brought her
 to that temper, that she was in some kind capable of
 profitable consideration, she began to gather up the
 scattered remnants of her torn attire, and by the help
 of a Glas there present, she a little accommodated
 her own discomposure, not out of any curiosity she
 desired to use towards her person, but onely to pre-
 vent the discovery of her discontents, not knowing
 how soon again she may be surprized. And thus,
 after she had performed what she thought was most
 necessary, to re-edifie what she had unframed by
 her violence, she went and sat down in the Chair,
 leaning her head over the back, with both her hands
 fastned upon her knee, whilst in the mean time her
 eyes were filled with tears, and her looks stedfastly
 fixed upwards, as if she implored the Heavens ayd in
 her misfortunes: thus she remained until *Roxana*, by
 the direction of *Ostirus* Servant, was brought into the
 Gallery, to accompany her Mistress, which *Cloria* not-
 withstanding perceived not, till both the fellow was
 gone, and *Roxana* seeing her sad posture, approached
 to waken her out of her sadness; so that at last, by the
 importunity of two or three calls, the almost dead
 Princess seemed by a slow motion to take new life,
 like a young *Phoenix*, after her Mothers obsequies;
 and when she had sent forth a couple of deep sighs,
 as assured Messengers of her inward sorrow, being

still prest by *Roxana*, to know the cause of her discontent; (for she was an intire stranger to the encounter between her and *Osirus*) she at last told her, she had been lately tormented by a hurtful fury, and if by her wisdom she could not be dis-ingaged from the enchantment, she was afraid it had got so much possession of of her person, that it must needs turn her resolutions to the forsaking of what she most affected, or absolutely destroy that life she was willing to preserve, because her friends wished it. This distracted Language, and unusual looks, made *Roxana* the more eager to be satisfied. Wherefore, after *Cloria* had invited her to sit down by her, she informed her particularly of all the passages between her self and *Osirus*, yet vowing she would dye a thousand deaths, rather than yield to his desire; withall, blaming her for having been the occasion of her dissimulation.

However, these passions drew from the old Woman some tears; yet, preferring a discreet remedy, before a fruitless compassion, she not onely soon dried her eyes, but spake to her after this manner: Most dear Lady and Mistriss, said she, although I could be content to bewail the occasion that first wound you into this Labyrinth of difficulties, yet it were meerly ridiculous to lament that which is past, without attempting the means to be delivered from the mischief: Wherefore, before I proceed to counsel (however I shall be content to take up^d me what blame you please) I think it not amiss a little to let you see your own error, whereby you may be rendred more capable of advise; for yet your despairing thought stake from you all probability of receiving other impressions than impossibilities of prevention, which certainly will be the last and worst desperation, if tyrannical injustice
absolutely

absolutely prevail, though I am confident, the Gods will never permit so high an oppression, if your self provoke not too much their wrath, by having less trust in their goodness, than you ought to have. In the first place, be pleased to consider, what greater inconvenience you now undergo, than if you had inflamed *Osirus*, by your peremptory denial? since the dangerous effects of that refusal, can but fall upon you, when all other wayes have been attempted for your preservation and delivery; whereas now, you have not onely purchased time, that may produce happy accidents, but also by it you have convenient leisure to think upon many things for your benefit, that have not yet fallen, perhaps, within the compass of your consideration. In so much, as I must needs, not onely approve of your discretion, in tempering your Love to *Narcissus*, and concealing your hate to *Osirus*, but do further counsel you; nay, must conjure you; that if the Prince do again importune you for your consent, which no doubt he will, that you seem to give your free approbation, for the future marriage; nevertheless, upon this condition, that it may be kept secret from any knowledge, until you have sent to your Mother into *Cyprus*, to have her allowance; which promise cannot bind at all, not onely in respect of your former obligation to *Narcissus*, but also in regard you are a Prisoner, and therefore not tied to any contract made in such a state; which, as I said before, will gain time (the most precious thing we can desire, besides your absolute freedom) until either the winning of the Town by the besiegers, probable enough (since *Sorastros* is so employed in his *Carthaginian* Wars, that he cannot send any succours to relieve his Son) or some other fortunate chance give a period to your unfortu-

nate intanglement: in the mean space, if my wits fail me not, I may project something for your advantage. And thus by fair words, with her discreet carriage, *Cloria* by little and little was perswaded to rest satisfied; the rather for that *Ostirus* employment in the siege, gave her some weeks respite from his importunity.

But *Ostirus* one day, either over-hot with his affection, or conceiving he had permitted *Cloria* a sufficient time of consideration, came into the same Galery, where she was again privately retired for her recreation; who, after she had entertained his short Complements, with a pale countenance, and a trembling expression, the true witnesses of her troubled Mind, he began to demand an account of her Resolutions; since as he said, he had given her both a noble and a gracious respite, and therefore wished her no longer to play the Tyrant with his Love. *Cloria*, when she had a little recollected her distracted spirits, became something passionate of his peremptory Taxation, hoping thereby the better to obtain a longer protraction of her determinate Answer for the Mariage; but he seeming to press it, with some violence, the Princess took the boldness to tell him, that although she intended not to dispute the Question between his Love and her Tyranny, much lesse to examine the graciousness of his proceedings; yet since she was resolved to have more time, before she could fully consent to a business of so high a consequence, she desired him to have the patience which befitted a Suitor: This she delivered with a quick sharpness, contrary to her custom, that shewed, she was not more displeased with his request, then confident of her power.

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Yet alas, the last opinion extremely deceived her; for *Osius* belike, disdaining in his proud nature, to entertain any thing from his Captive, but humility, with a sowl brow told her, that those sparkles which her beauty had kindled in his heart, were either to be kept alive by more violence, or to be utterly extinguished, by a just revenge; and these words put poor *Cloria* clean beside all her policy; so that she stood some time, like one that saw a Spirit, and had not Courage enough to speak to it; which was an occasion that they both entertained one another for a pretty space, with their looks onely; untill the compulsion of fear dictated to her thoughts, a necessity of redeeming again his good opinion, doubting her too much confidence had endangered, in some sort, his displeasure; and therefore, with an humble courtesie, although her countenance still put on shewes of distrustful aversion, she thus spake unto him.

My Lord, said she, by your aspect and words, I cannot but note your anger; which to my condition, is no less to be esteemed than absolute destruction: since I can neither fly from your wrath, nor resist your power; but how terrible that appears to my imagination, when you are treating in matters of Love, that ought to be sweet and calm, I leave you to judge; when I am to be perpetually tyed to a subjection alwayes tyrannical, and never conversable, as I may believe by your present demeanour; since your jealousies and suspicions, at this time far outgo your reason; and with that she wept: which gave *Osius* occasion to take her in his arms, vowing by all the Gods, that as his affection was no way diminished towards her, so he would resolve, when they were married, not only to bury all jealousies, but

to study a more pleasing conversation, that might render her happily contented; these expressions she acknowledged with a bow of her body, though she playd in the mean space, onely the sad Hypocrite. After she had wiped her eyes, for now she was to act her part, according to her Governnesse direction, since she found her other project had failed her, she began again to speak to him in this manner; wherein she shewed, that her necessities had taught her a craft that was not at all in her nature for that she alwayes esteemed it dishonourable to dissemble.

Sir, said she, if your professions be answerable to my expectation, and that your thoughts go along with your words, I shall be most unhappy in my declaration, since, as I am to be your Wife with honour and content, as you have promised, so I must desire you to permit those circumstances, without which they cannot be had; that is, that I may have liberty, before the publication of the Nuptials, to send into *Cyprus* to my Mother, not only to let her know what is become of me, but withal, to purchase her free consent to so Noble a choyce; since as you know, it is the least duty of a Child, to give an account to their Parents of that disposeure, which absolutely banisheth them from their protection, and renders them subjects of another jurisdiction; wherein you will not ouely afford sufficient proof of your being hereafter a kind Husband, but of your being now a Noble Conquerour.

O first, although he was beyond expression joy'd at her seeming consent, and tickled to hear himself magnified by a tongue he most valued yet he was scarce pleased at the request, both because it necessarily protracted the mariage, as also, for that

it raised some doubt, lest *Hyacinthia* should not be willing to the match; which made him for some time wrestle with his determination, untill at last, his over-weening fancy brought forth his judgement, in the two points controverted by his suspicion; which was, that as in the first place, he was bound in honour and love to give satisfaction to his now supposed Wife; so for the other, he could not fear the dislike of the Queen, but rather a hasty consent; not only in regard it preserved, but dignified her Daughter: with this fancy, and a smiling Contenance, (which until then he had never put on) he told *Cloria*, that her request was granted; however, with this proviso, that a Messenger of his own for the more state, as he pretended, should bear the Letter; wherein she might very well see a countenance of his jealousies, notwithstanding his glorious professions; though she could not much blame him for the humour, since she knew her own heart was not faithful to his purposes.

But *Cloria*, however she was sorry for his caution, yet she was forced to give her consent, like one that was constrained to deal with his Creditor after he was arrested; and so the present bargain was struck up between them, which she thought commodious, in respect it procured her a Reprieve, hoping that ere long the consequence of the siege might produce accidents to her advantage. Yet his telling her by chance, that his Father *Sorastros*, having compounded his *Carthaginian* differences, was resolved to march with his whole Army to relieve the Town, a little destroyed that hope; though he rather spoke it to satisfy his own Vaunting Humour, than out of any assurance he had of the design. In this posture *Ostirus*, after he had endeavoured to shew his

own Amorous Disposition by a few Love Complements, and with an ill grace, begg'd a Kisse of her fair Lips, he retired to entertain his own joy, and please himself with the Fancies of his delightful Mariage, whilst in the mean time, with hasty steps, and a passionate mind, sweet *Cloria* went to seek out *Roxana*, to redder her a perfect account of her proceedings; whom she found in her Chamber cloathing a little Dwarf, accompanied onely with her Mayd-servants; but *Roxana* quickly finding the distemper of her Mistresse, by her distracted looks, and confused demands, soon dismiss the people, and after *Cloria* was seated upon her bed, she importun'd her to know, what new accidents had again troubled her thoughts, since not long ago, she had left her in so good a humour, in so much as at last the Princessse told her the whole story of *Osirus* carriage, and her own consent, wishing withall that she had rather hazarded her life, by an absolute denial, than have given him so much satisfaction; whereupon *Roxana* began to smile: but *Cloria* apprehending a want of compassion in her Governness, told her, she was of the conspiracy with *Osirus*, to betray her Love to *Narcissus*, since she could expresse mirth at this time in her countenance, when her self was tormented with a despairing misery. No, said *Roxana*, I laugh to see your wilful ignorance, that no instructiō can inform; when, put on what resolution soever you will, you return again to the same errour: for, I pray consider, if you have not that liberty of hazarding your life (as I have often told you) when you have tried alwayes, by seeming to comply with *Osirus* desire, to gain time, as if you had exasperated his spleen by a peremptory Denial at the first? and certainly that is the worst of your expectation; besides, you may

remember, if you have not altogether forgot your own relation, how much he was dextempered, when you did but mention, an uncertainty in your resolution of making him your Husband; in so much as you were glad your self to cry *Peccavi*, and suddenly by dissimulation to temper his passion. Yet, that you may see, I am not so great an enemy to your wishes, as your suspicion suggests to your imagination; I shall propound unto you probable remedies, if you have patience enough to put them in execution; if not, at leastwise sit still, and hear what I will act, without destroying my designs: These words made poor *Cloria* perck up her self with a new hope, since she could be never dissident in her Governnesse wisdom; and so by little and little, drew neerer and neerer unto her, untill at last she laid her head in the old Womans bosom; whilst she had acquainted her with her project, in these words.

The Boy, said she, which you saw us apparelling when you entred into the Chamber, (I hope sent by the Gods for our purpose) I bought, not long ago, of a Widdow to an *Ethiopian* Merchant, because he could speak perfectly the *Lydian* Tongue, and is by birth of *Chios*, brought up from his infancy in the Art of swimming, as all the rest of those Islanders are; in so much as he is become admirable in that profession, and was made use of by his dead Master (who was a Jeweller by his vocation) for his commodity and gain in his traffick for rich stones, in respect the Rivers of these Countries yield abundance. However, not being very certain of his skill before I had tried him the water, and curious to be assured that my new Servant wanted not that quality of diving, according to the recommendation, (although I knew not what use I should have of that Science)

I carried him down into the deepest cestern belonging to the Castle (which marks out yearly the rise and fall of *Nilus* to the people of the Countrey; whereby they may have a conjecture of the fertility of their harvest) as conceiving it the most convenient place to prove his cunning; not only in regard it lay within the limits of our own lodgings; but also, for that the deepness of the pool would make a better proof of his dexterity; where, not long he had plaid in the water, (I, in the mean time casting in pieces of mony which he alwaies fetcht up from the bottom) before he fell by chance upon the great bolt that fastens the Iron grate, giving passage into the Castle, that cannot be perceived, by reason of the stream, until the course be turned another way, by certain artificial pipes, that delivers it into the river, which before I was aware he unbolted, to have the more liberty in *Nilus*; but I soon called him into the Cestern again not only because I feared it might be discovered, but but for that I began to think with my self, some benefit might be made of the knowledge: and to this purpose have considered, this boy may be sent into your uncles army, not only to give him notice of your imprisonment, but to try whether any brave spirits will attempt the surprize of the Castle through the same passage, he upon their approach, opening the water-gate to give them entrance; which is a project not hard to be put in execution in the night season, when the Guard shall be careless of their watch, by reason the place is not at all suspected. Besides, I have noted so much neglect of that part of the Fort, that either it appears, *Osirus* wants Soldiers for the strong defence of the whole Town; or, he conceives the Castle is inpregnable, of that side of *Nilus*: Now all the fear is, lest the boy himself
prove

prove a traytor to the design; which however can but ruine my self, and leave you in no worse estate than you are: a sacrifice I shall be alwaies content to offer, to render you the probality of so acceptable a service: but if there cannot be found those courages in the Camp, that will undergo the danger of the attempt, the Dwarf may have a farther Commission to pass into *Cyprus* to the Queen your mother, to inform her of all the passages; by which information she may use some means to protract her consent to the mariage; or at least wise, prevent *Osirus* messengers return, by causing him to be taken prisoner, before he can get to the sea-side.

No sooner had *Roxana* laid open this stratagem, but *Cloria*, as it had been already finished, protest her Governess the only instrument of her happiness; (so far doth humane desire go beyond all judgement, governed by reason) though the politick old woman (notwithstanding she was willing to keep up her Mistresses hopes at the highest pitch) saw there were many difficulties and hazards to pass, before they could arrive at the period of their wishes; not only by reason of divers accidents, that might happen to the childish messenger, that was to be employed in so dangerous a business; but for that *Osirus*, overheated with his love, might not continue constant to his promises; and by that means easily destroy all that they had designed: however *Roxana* omitted no opportunity for some dayes, to instruct the Dwarf in the part he was to act; untill her pains, after a weeks space, had in the dead of the night, delivered him free from the Castle watch, and in the Morning came to give *Cloria* an account of her proceeding. This enterprize so far pleased the Princess, in the already success, that whilst she was dressing her self be-
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ing in a manner free from all care and perturbation, by reason of the confidence she had of the project; that she desired her Governours if she knew the story, to make her acquainted with the first occasion of this war between her uncle *Orsames*, and *Soraftros* King of *Egypt*; since, as she said, the spleen seemed to be irreconcilable.

Truly Madam, answered *Roxana*, as the chief reason is ambition, the most powerful provoke of great Monarchs to enmity, notwithstanding the force of any allance or religion; yet the pretext, to satisfie the world, is related after this manner: There is, said she, a certain Dukedom, not far off the confines of *Syria*, whose defects of quantity is abundantly supplied by the fertility of the soyl; which, besides the situation of the Countrey, lying commodiously to both their Dominions, hath rendred it a subject of covetousness to each Prince: however, in my opinion, your uncle had the better pretence for the quarrel; for the Duke of the Territory dying without heirs males of his body, the King of *Armenia*, by the provocation of *Soraftros*, claimed the forfeiture of the Country, as an escheat belonging to his Kingdom; and on the other side, *Orsames* stood for the title of one of his own subjects, who certainly had the just right in the Principality, though not condescended unto by the other party; which at last, procured the raising of powerfull armies of both sides, but before they could come conveniently to encounter one with another, it was necessary they should pass *Arabia*, a Countrey not only mountainous, but belonging to a Prince; that as he was neer of kin to *Soraftros*, by former alliance, so was he for the present married to a Sister of *Orsames*, which made him have a hard part to play; desiring to keep an equal ballance be-

between both these contentions, until the Gods at one time took away both his care and life; but his widdow quickly put his children under the protection of *Orsames* her brother, by which means his pretensions became much more fortified; in so much as *Sorastros* had no other way to countervail that interest, but to cause the two uncles of the young Prince, to lay claim to the Dominion, as pretending the child not to be legitimate: this imagined Title, quickly made a division of all the Nobility of the Countrey, some taking part with the brothers, others with the young Duke; whilst in the mean time both *Orsames* and *Sorastros* put in for their own interest; the one pretending a jurisdiction in the Country, in the childrens right, as the other sought to strengthen the uncles titles; which contention made the poor subjects become miserable, since they were forced to sustain the charge of the ambitious Armies; and *Arabia* being made the Theater of the war, the walled Towns the only receptacles of provisions, and protection for the inhabitants, which appeared to be more lasting, for that the victories seemed to go by turns a long time; til at last the *Egyptian* forces prevailing, the Princess, with the young Duke, was constrained, for want of timely assistance from her brother, being busied in other affairs, to seek refuge in one of the strongest and best fortified Cities of the Countrey; where, being not only besieged, but violently assaulted by the adverse party, she had a task hard enough, to escape by an obscure flight in the night, whilst in the interim, the Town was yielded into the hands of her brothers in Law, though the Castle still kept possession for the lawful Prince: the enemy, by this success, appeared in a manner quite possessors of the whole Countrey; untill *Orsames* General, lying with
his

his Army upon the confines of *Spain*, necessarily to repair the decay of his forces, hearing of the prevailing progress of the Nobility, conceived it more than time to stop this overflowing current, unless he would suffer not only the Duke to be dis-inherited by the practices of his uncles, but his Master to be dishonoured by the power of the *Egyptians*: wherefore, as desperate diseases are to be cured by extraordinary physick, not so much as staying for the necessary recruit of his Army, marched with a hast answerable to the greatness of the design, which was, again to recover the lost Town, that seemed principally to command the whole Countrey, or bury himself and all his souldiers before those walls, he should not be able to enter. At his arrival, he not only set upon those Troops that were placed to stop his passage but gave them an entire defeat, though their number exceeded those he conducted, that also were accompanied with the disadvantage of being wearied in their journey, having nothing but their own invincible courages to supply the defect. But however, this admirable esteemed victory, both possessed the brave General of the Town, and reduced many of the revolted Nobility, to their lawfull obedience; yet the sparkles of so great a disunion, were impossible to be buried in the Cinders of a quiet peace; especially, since the *Egyptian* neighbouring Countries were alwayes capable to kindle new flames, without some agreement by consent; so that it was designed to use all means could be devised, to render the uncles contented; whereby the Prince might the better be secured, and established in his rightfull inheritance, and the Country freed from the fear of any more civil war; in prosecution of which the one was bought with rich gifts, to become
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Orsames General in those wars he intended against *Sorastros*, by reason of these occasions; and the other was married to the Dukes sister, his own Niece; the likelier to continue his friendship between him and his sister in Law, and make the party stronger for *Orsames* intentions, which was to revenge the injuries that he conceived the *Egyptians* intended against his sisters honour, and his Nephews right. This Madam, said *Roxana*, hath been the beginning of the quarrels between these two mighty Monarchs that both have, and is likely still to disturb the tranquility of the most part of *Asia*, of which now the Country of *Lydia*, your fathers Kingdom, begins also to bear a large share; since it is not to be doubted; but *Philostros* set a foot the troubles there, because the King would not joyn in an absolute league with *Syria*; but scarce had she come to this point, when she was informed that *Osirius* war neer at hand, to visit the Princess; which gave them no more time, than was necessary to prepare for his unwelcome company; and so consequently broke off for the present their discourse.

Osirius, that began to esteem himself, in a manner Lord of his desires; having his Mistriss affections, as he believed, under his command, as he had her person in his custody; nothing being now between the fruition and his hopes, but a few ceremonious approbation of her parents; entred the room, not like a fearfull Lover, or a modest suiter, but already a married husband, taking presently *Cloria* in his arms whilst he prophaned, as she imagined, the chaste temple of her lips, with three or four impure kisses, that left them, after a while, to blush for the attempt; however, he presently turned to *Roxana*, and told her, that when the Nuptials were past, he would study
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some convenient preferment for her Age; either by a rich Husband to keep her sides warm, or any honourable jurisdiction, to exercise her experience; not knowing how little faithful she had been, and intended to be, to his purposes; notwithstanding she humbly thanked him for his gracious favour: after this he began to fall into a large commendation of all his virtues; but, especially of his admiral valour, that never refused any danger, as he said, how great and common soever, in the Wars, or otherwise; though the dignity of his person was a sufficient privilege, as he said against such attempts. But during the time that he was using these brags, which gave poor *Cloria* a sufficient surfeit, he was informed, that a *Herald* attended in the Gallery, with a Letter from the Camp. *Osirus* believing that it was some offered treaty of composition from *Orsames*, hearing of the determination of his Father, to raise the siege, instantly commanded the Messenger to brought into his presence, that his Mistress might be witness of his glory; after he had received and opened the Letter, he read it aloud, that the whole Company might be satisfied in the contents, scorning to conceal what Resolution soever of the Enemy, however contrary to his expectation; the Writing spake this Language.

Osirus, I am to let you know, that your Messenger, whom you intended to send into Cyprus, is surprized by our Army; whereby the Love you offer to the fair Princess *Cloria*, is discovered; with your design, to demand her in Marriage, of her Mother, the Queen *Hyocinthia*; which is a request, neither in her power to grant, nor for your honour to desire; since I pretend a former promise of her affection, not to be released by any

any power, unless she her self do unworthily fly from the contract; an act, I can never believe, until I see it under-written by that white hand, that I suppose will not be consenting to so black a deed: in the mean time I must think it, either a project of your own foolish presumption, or a constraint, proceeding from the wicked tyranny of her imprisonment, that gives you boldness to make so unjust a demand. Wherefore, if you have any remnants left, of that Noble blood, which belongs to your house, a prerogative you so much boast of, shew it, either in leaving off so preposterous a sute, and set the Lady free from her captivity, whereby she may become absolute Mistress of her choyce; or else prepare yourself with courage, to give me the meeting in a single combat, to dispute the Title: else, I must let you know, that as I am the white Knight, which disarmed you in the head of your Troops, so must I from hence forward, proclame you to be a cowardly Traytor to love, valour, and virtue; and so consequently, not only unworthy of your pretensions, to be husband to such a wife, but of any other match, how low soever can be propounded, although you bear the name of a Prince; unto which I subscribe my name,

NARCISSUS.

After that *Osius* had read the Letter, and for some time considered the contents thereof, with a disdainful smile he told the Messenger, that as he pardoned his rashness, for bringing such peremptory lines, to be presented to a Majesty, not to be discerned by so poor a sight as his own; so he commanded him to let the boy know, not only his own contempt of his person, but that the Princess *Cloria*, (who was a wife rather fit for the Gods, than for a child of so mean condition) disdained the very men-

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tioning of his love ; wherein , he thought he much obliged her with a complement. And for the combat, if the greatest Monarch of the world had sent him a challenge (as he said) he must therein have followed the direction of his Council; much less endeavour to give satisfaction to such proposterous lines. After the Messenger was discharged, *Osrus* went out of the room, as if his choler had got the absolute prerogative over his brags ; whilst in the mean time, *Gloria* and her Governess had sport enough to laugh at his folly, as well as to be joyful at the neighbourhood of *Narcissus* ; which gave them sufficient employment and delight all the day following. However, the next Morning, to their no small amazement, they were called up to the leads of the Castle, to behold a great distraction in *Orsames* Army, before the Town, wherein appeared an extraordinary slaughter ; upon what ground they could not possibly imagine, unless it were some accidental , and unfortunate mutiny amongst themselves ; which notwithstanding, so much troubled them both, that they soon retired, with the undelightfulness of the prospect , into their own lodgings, to attend the issue of the supposed difference ; where they had not rested two hours, tormented with variable fears, and greedy expectations, before they were informed, that some Troops sent by *Sorastros* to relieve his Son , because he could not yet spare more forces from his new engagements, had with invincible courage made their passage thorow the enemies Camp, and with safety got entrance into the Town, to the absolute furnishing of the Garrison ; which (as 'twas delivered) created new courage in the hearts of the people ; in so much that now (as they said) they did not care for the continuance of the siege, since they were sufficiently provided against all

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Orsames power. *Cloria* and *Roxana*, notwithstanding this news, were extremely glad it was no worse; although, of the other side, they were troubled to think upon the protraction of their delivery, if their project should any way miscarry, the accident giving conveniency to double the guards in every place, one of the greatest obstacles to the design; however, their hopes so much out-went their fears, that their imaginations were contented in some sort to rest satisfied.

But *Osirus*, being puffed up with the joy of these new succours, not only, for that they so much strengthened his Forces in the Town, but had, as he believed, most courageously beaten *Orsames*, since they made their way thorow his whole Army, resolved the next day himself in person to make a general sally upon the enemy, and by that means, as he hoped, absolutely to finish the siege: neither could he abstain from sending a Messenger to the Princess, as well to inform her of his success, as to promise her the chastisement of the proud boy *Narcissus*, as he termed him; which belike he imagined would be most welcome news to her ears. *Cloria*, although she scarce liked his determination, yet she was confident enough of his want of power to execute his resolution; knowing that *Orsames*, her uncle, neither wanted Souldiers in his Camp, to resist his attempt, nor conduct in his Officers, to be sufficiently watchful against any surprize; especially being taught provident experience by the last daies conflict; and for *Narcissus*, who went neerest her heart, although she was possessed with some gentle fears continually of his safety, yet she was abundantly confident of his valour, not only in the consideration of the bold challenge he had lately sent *Osirus*, but in the common

report she had heard of his fame, during these wars, under the title of the white Knight; however she was content, by the perswasion of her Governess, to return a dissembling thanks for the Princes favour, that he would vouchsafe to make her acquainted with his great and secret designs.

After the Messenger was departed, as *Gloria* and *Roxana* spent most of the day, and the night following, in discourses concerning their affairs, (in which interim, now and then the sweet Princess let fall some tears, with many silent Prayers to the Gods, both for the prosperity of her condition, and the safety of *Narcissus*) so, of the other side, *Osirus* was more than busied in the preparation, and encouragement of his Souldiers; sometime taking counsel, whether it were better to set upon the enemy in the day, or the night; and how to manage the salley they intended to make, to the best advantage; other while, he caused false Alarums to be given to the Camp, with beat of Drum and sound of Trumpet, whereby the better not only to deceive *Orsames* expectation, that he might be less prepared, when he should set upon him, but also to weary his Souldiers, remaining in their Arms; all which employment took up the time; until *Osirus* (after two daies, in the dead of the night, so determined by a Councel of War) issued forth, out of the Town, with most of his Forces, only leaving the Burgers to man the Walls: and marched in that manner silently, without any noise at all, the better to surprize the enemy. But contrary to his expectation, or rather to his extraordinary amazement, he found the Camp raised, and *Orsames* gone; only some few left (as they confessed, being taken by the Souldiers) to set fire to the Camp the next Morning. This news, as it gave sufficient cause of wonder

der to *Ostius* Army, so it was quickly caried with joy into the Town; wherefore, the Troops returning again, after some slight sacrifices were performed to the Gods, every one betook themselves to those appetites that best pleased their sensualities; the Citizens only taking care, as in time of peace, for the safety of the City; but by this strange, or rather ominous accident, *Clorias* hopes seemed now to be absolutely ravished, and her miserable captivity to be eternally prolonged; nor had *Roxana* scarce courage left her to comfort her sorrowful Mistress in any kind, that could produce the least flattering confidence; yet after they had spent the tedious day in diversity of passions, which appeared to be the more Tyrannical, for that they were forced in part, to smother their griefs in their secret bosoms, that they might not come to the knowledge of those spies, which were commanded to attend their persons, if not secure their imprisonment; at night they both cast themselves down upon their beds, without taking the pains to pull off their clothes, nor believing that rest they were probably to take, could merit the labour.

However they had not reposed in that posture much above two hours, in frightful slumbers, and disquiet dreams, engendred in their thoughts by despairing apprehensions, when of the sudden they were called up by a Maid-servant, to behold a bloody conflict in the Castle Hall, whereof they had the more commodity to be spectators, in regard the window of the Wardrob that belonged to their lodgings, had a full prospect into the place; the sight seemed the more horrid, in regard only of a faint light proceeding from a dark Lamp, that was hung in the middle of the room, which rather appeared like the ta-

per of death, since it was the means to shew the way to a greater slaughter, than was commodious, or at all delightful to the view: but after a while that the confused combatants either wearied by over much destruction, or the prevailing party having gained too apparent advantage over those of the Castle, (in part to be discerned by their Livery) began to breath, whilst the others fled, either to seek more help, or to save their lives; yet long they had not enjoyed that repose, (and I may say in some sort necessary) but they might here a Knight among the rest, that seemed to be the chief Captain of the Company in Command, to blame them for their slothfulness in prosecution, considering as he said, the work was not half done, until they were full possessors of the Fort; with these words flourishing a little his sword about his head, he endeavoured to make a new passage into the innermost rooms, but long it was not before he was strongly opposed by a guard at the door, that courageously denied him entrance, until many of their lives had paid for the bold attempt. This brought *Osirus* ready armed to warrant his guards Commission; So that the Knight was forced to retire back into the Hall, not so much to give way to the fury of his stroak, as perceiving him to be the Prince by his own language, to have the more space conveniently to fight in the Hall, since he found himself shut up in a straight entry: never till then began a combat worth the beholding; for, as *Osirus* seemed to contend, for the defence of his Castle, knowing them by their own confession to be *Orfames* Souldiers, so the Captain, as it were by the provocation of honour, strived by force of Arms to make him his Prisoner, being the chief Prince of the Countrey; since the glory of the victory appeared only to consist

list in such a conquest as himself believed; whilst in the mean time his other followers pursued the rest of the guard round about the Fort, until they had absolutely rendred them subjects of their wrath, or objects of their mercy; and thus continued these confused slaughters, and fearful cryes of dying and yielding persons, to the astonishment of poor *Cloria*, whose eyes had not been often acquainted with such spectacles, till the dwarf *Roxana* had sent to inform *Orsames* of their Captivity, appeared suddenly at their backs, and almost as soon informed them, not only of the success of his enterprize in the Army, but withall told them, that it was *Narcissus* that for the present combated with *Osirius*.

Then the Princess began again to be possessed with some new fears, as doubting the issue of the fight, since she beheld both their Armours alike besprinkled with blood, which caused her a little to withdraw her sight; by the interposition of a certain curtain that covered the windows; however not being able long to withhold her curious though distracted looks from that fearful object, as she conceived, after some more time looking again into the Hall, she might behold *Osirius* fall down, before the conquering sword of brave *Narcissus*, who presently notwithstanding made hast to him with seeming wings of charity and compassion, & soon unlaced his Head-piece, with intention to give him some refreshing air, as the most necessary means to call him again out of his sounding, that appeared to his apprehension the next neighbour unto death: *Osirius* after he had recovered a new life by this courtesie, fixed his eyes steadfastly upon him, as if however in a manner, he disdained all assistance in that nature; until at last in an appearing passion, he uttered these words: Is it

Possible the Gods can thus envy my fate, as not only to make me a base captive in my own Castle, but to necessitat my fortunes to such a condition, as to render me needful of an enemies favour? nay, rather said he, let me dye a thousand times in the height of your cruelties, and my own misfortune; then presently shut his eyes again, as if he hated the dayes light, though as it might be thought, more for his conceived disgrace to be so overcome, than for the loss of his liberty and prosperity; however *Narcissus* commanded his Officers, instantly to bear the wounded Prince to his Chamber, without any other reply, than that his condition required patience and not passion; which absolutely made up the full period of his fortunat glory, to the amazed content of his most beautiful love: but *Clorin* being perswaded by *Roxana*, to give *Narcissus* a visit in the Hall, since that was the honourable Theater, where he had acted so valiant a part for her delivery, she hasted in her resolutions to that wished entertainment, which diverted other considerations; however *Narcissus* not so cold in his love to his fair Mistress, after he had disposed of *Ostirus* to safe custody, with a strict command for his noble usage, and a diligent care to be had of his wounds, made what halte he could up into the Princess Chamber, as to the Temple where he intended to offer his first sacrifice after his Victories, which was the occasion they both met upon the stairs.

Narcissus when he beheld the only Goddess of his heart, had much ado to abstain from open Idolatry; however, his tongue could not forbear these expressions, when he had sealed his own welcome, with his longing lips upon her white hand: Most excellent Princess, said he, the only hope of my life, and
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the very life of all my hopes, whose goodness and beauty are such parallels of perfection, that heaven and earth seem to have conspired in your Birth, since by the one you conquer the world, as by the other you do more than prevail with the divine powers: And yet said *Cloria*, you seemed to challenge a great prerogative in my love, when you durst express in your Letter to *Ofirus*, your interest to my person and affection, in so bold a stile and language, without my privacy and allowance, which might have cost me dear, if your fortune had not been better than your temper. At which reproof *Narcissus* (fearing he had exasperated the Princess anger by that declaration) began with trembling and distracted words, to make an apology for that presumption: But merciful *Cloria*, when she had conducted him into her own Chamber, and there for some time entertained him with a pretty smile, only enjoyned him for his penance, the relation of his adventures, since she left him at her Mothers Court, in the habit of *Aminta*: yet considering what a discovery unawares she had made to *Rozana's* knowledge, she could not chuse but grow red; whilst her Governess lookt her in the face with some wonder, to hear of the name of *Aminta* her own servant, and *Narcissus* her mistress lover to be the same person; This made the Princess blush with the more violence, till at last the riddle was unfolded by her self, since it could not be any longer kept secret, however with a conjuration to her Governess, never to divulge it to any person living. But having appeased all these differences, at last *Narcissus*, whom she only blamed for the act, began his story in this manner:

After said he the news of your strange loss, was spread through your Mothers Court, and so consequently

quently over all the Island of *Cyprus*, which left no corner without grief and sorrow, I resolv'd presently to change my disguise, and search you in every place, that could afford any probability of your abroad; And first came into my imagination, that you might be voluntarily retired into *Lydia*, to accompany your Father in his necessities; however that was but a fancy to all knowing judgements, since you would before the determination, have made the Queen acquainted with your resolution, who rather believed that some love conspiracy between us two, had made you privatly quit the Countrey: but as both I and others suppos'd we knew not what, so I went I knew not where, till at last by a rough Journey at Sea, I arriv'd upon the Coast of *Caria*, with an intention to enquire whether or no, you made your abroad in your Fathers Court, however I was before-hand convinced in the improbability of the demand, where nevertheless by chance, I met with a ship of those Pirates, that had fled from the rest that took you prisoner, not being consenting to your transportation into *Egypt*, which was put into that Harbour, with a resolution, if they could not be admitted speedily into the service of *Euarchus* against his own Subjects, who had already as 'twas reported employ'd most of his royal Navy against his Command, they would direct their course to *Tyre*, to make the same offer to *Orsames* your Uncle; by which means I became absolutely inform'd of them, of all those passages that concern'd your Person, amongst the Pirates before your coming to *Memphis*: but they receiving a refusal, by reason the King your Father esteem'd not himself yet ready for their assistance, I determin'd to take the commodity of that ship for my transportation into *Syria*: however, because the Vessel need-

ded some reparation before it could go out of the Haven of *Caria*, I had sufficient leisure given me in a disguise, to inform my self of the affairs of your Father, as a duty belonging to you, whom as I was told had lately quitted the City of *Sardis*, and was retired for his greater security (though with a very few company) to *Theatira*, a place as it was conceived much more addicted to his service; upon my arrival I found him in a condition in that City beyond my expectation, not only attended by most of the Gentry and Nobility of the Kingdom of *Lydia*, but going to a great Assembly of people gathered together by his command; unto whom he made an oration to this purpose:

My Lords, said he, and you the rest of my Subjects, as I am not more glad, to see this joyful Declaration of your Duties to my Service, than willing to imploy my best endeavours for your protection, so I hope the Gods will give me the power still to be your King, notwithstanding the cunning and malicious practices of many, who have sought to bereave me of that honour, alleging I have a will rather to become a Tyrant, than continue a Governour: but for that this meeting is principally designed, that you may the better know me, and I be the more assured of you, I shall strive to let you see my acts and thoughts: in the first place, no sooner was I thoroughly possess'd of the grievances of my Kingdoms, but I assembled the great Council to give them redress, wherein I not only condescended to pass such decrees, as were thought necessary for that purpose, but assured the continuance thereof, absolutely to bury all fears and jealousies, that might arise by reason of any doubt of my inconstancy; however this is now so far turned to my disadvantage, that I am not only denied,

denyed, any more managing the affaires of the common-weal, contrary to the known Lawes of *Lydia*, but have been in a manner forcibly driven from *Sardis* my regal City, with disorderly tumults; neither can probably be again established in my antient right, without your assistance. In the second place, I can give you no stronger assurance, than my deep vows to the Gods, that I will never change the laws, customs, and religion of the Kingdom, which are testimonies sufficient for your belief, against calumniations, and false aspersions, cast about in your eares to my prejudice; since in your loves I mean rather to rule, than by own Sword. And now I shall proceed, to let you see, the danger to your selves by this intended change of Lawes; though, before you can be entirely instructed therein, you must be thoroughly informed of the constitutions of your own present government, the best composed certainty of all other, since it is a Monarchy of that restriction, that it neither takes from the King, that power that is necessary for his obedience; nor yet leaves the subject in a slavish subjection; so that if he would, he cannot be a Tyrant; and if he will, he may be a Prince: in the one, the people are invited to obey with love, and in the other, the Sovereign is compelled to govern with humanity, since he hath not power to be over-insolent, as the subject liberty to be licentious, in so much as there will now rest nothing, but to mark out to your understandings my Priviledges and your rights, whereby you may the more clearly distinguish of the unhappy differences between me and my Senate; which as I take it, is the plainest way of demonstration, since the matter is brought into fact, and not left to opinion.

To this purpose, I challenge, by the lawes, customs,

stoms, and fundamental constitutions of this Kingdom, never yet contradicted, or disputed by any time, the treating of Nobility, ordaining officers, pardoning offenders, confiscations of offenders, raising of Fortes, making war or peace, convocating or dismissing Senates, and a negative voice in the proceedings, as undoubted prerogatives belonging to the Crown of *Lydia*, not to be invaded by the endeavour of any subject, without incurring those penalties, that belong to the crime of treason against the Kings person; of the other side, the people may justly pretend to this liberty, the absolute freedom of their lives, wch they cannot forfeit, without a legal trial by men of their own rank and Countrey: a power to enjoy and dispose of their goods, without the leave of any person whatsoever; and a successive inheritance in their lands, that cannot be interposed by any of another blood or kindred: the first gives the Prince such a jurisdiction, as is necessary for his government, the other maintains the people in a pleasing freedom to themselves; without the one there must needs follow, that which can produce nothing but confusion; and lacking the other, men are so enthralled, that they must needs want courages to defend, or good their Countrey; wherefore, if I lack that fitting right that belongs unto a King, you must miss of that protection needfull for subjects, since the disputation of command only will distract the resolutions of such as are commanded in their obedience; whereby profitable resolutions cannot be put in execution. Besides, if I should poorly suffer my ancient right to be invaded, can it be thought my lasting posterity will be content in after ages with such a loss? since they will have many Princes, stung with the example, to assist them in the justness of the quarrel; which will

at last, either endanger the Subjects of the Kingdom, to be made captives to forein power, or at the least, fill the whole Realm with blood and slaughters, to its absolute destruction? So that I say, as these were most laudable constitutions, conveyed unto you by the wisdom of your ancestors, so do not you by your own stupid wilfulness, (for no better can I call it) endeavour to abolish that excellent government, that hath continued you happy for so many ages; resembling the Giants, that made a preposterous war with heaven, untill they and their proud endeavours, were all buried in a confused destruction. I speak not this, that I so much doubt you in your affections, as I fear others in their subtilties, for as no hypocrisie is so dangerous, as that which brings with it the name of Religion, so no bait is so catching, as that which is sweetned with the promise of Liberty. Remember but your past delight, & compare it with the present distraction, and I am assured you will finde a difference; wherefore if these be but the beginnings of evils, consider what the end will be; alterations of government are like desperate purges, that at the best exceedingly distemper, and at the worst are deadly: if you should have more freedom than you have, you would but break your windes, before you get to the end of your course; and if you have less than you enjoy, may the Gods punish me for my tyranny; let your old law-marks guide you in your subjection and obedience, and suffer no new ones to be set up, that will not teach you to void rocks, since you are not acquainted with their stations. That subject must needs be in great slavery, that neither knows a certain rule whereby to do well, nor can comprehend the power of the Lord
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he is to obey : let the things you know be your punishment or reward, by which you may easily square your endeavours, & not bring a judgment upon your selves, for that you cannot possibly learn ; since it will not be your crime that condemns you, but other opinions that judges you. But perchance it may be alleged, that this unlimited jurisdiction is to last but during the necessity of the time ; unto which it may as probably be answered, that as any new authority obtained, is seldome or never given over, but by force ; so, of the other side, it is more than suspicious there is no such intention, when the old way is sufficient to govern moderately by, without seeking a new, by injurious difficulties ; no, no, be not deceived, for scarce yet a change hath been made in any State (under what pretensions soever) that ever it came to the same form again, notwithstanding something plausible at the first, was offered to the people, to procure it the fairer passage. In a word, I must confess, your liberty is as convenient as my prerogative, and without which neither of both can be happy : Wherefore let us resolve, that neither the one nor the other, shall be destroyed by violence or craft ; and as I will never stretch my jurisdiction to prejudice you, so do not you abuse your own liberty to destroy your selves.

But however the Kings speech was variously interpreted by the multitude, who were bewitched with the desires of equality, yet the Gentry and Nobility, put on such strong resolutions to defend your fathers rights, since upon that depended the honour of their own dignities, that in a short time, as I have been since informed, he became Master of a brave Army, commanded by his own Nephew, called *Thyasmus*, younger brother to Prince *Cassianus*, who had been

taken prisoner by the King of *Armenia*, in seeking to revenge, or rather maintain his dead Fathers quarrel; from whence after some time of Noble imprisonment, he was released without any other ransom, than that he should never during his life bear Arms against *Artaxes*; which was the occasion, he being of a restless spirit, that he sought employment in his Uncles service, and by reason of these new troubles hath obtained it. And this, dear Princess, is all the account I can give you of your Fathers affairs, since I was forced to make haste to the Ship I had hired of the Pyrats for my transportation to *Tyre*; where being arrived, afterward I took my journey to *Damascus*, to *Orsames* Court, whom I found ready prepared with his Army to march, to the siege of *Memphis*; in whose Troops I quickly made my self a Souldier, and so continued, until the Messenger that *Osirius* had sent into *Cyprus*, to demand you in mariage of the Queen your Mother, was taken by the Sentinels, and brought into the Camp. This discovery inflamed my soul with so much jealousy, that I begg'd leave of *Orsames* to send the foolish challenge, that seemed to claim an interest in your affections, for which I hope I have already received my full correction. I, said the Princess, when you have absolutely made an end of your penance, by finishing your story, not yet performed, since the chief part is behind, the manner of my deliverance; which continued still *Narcissus* in his relation. After that the Herauld, said he, was returned without any satisfaction to my thoughts, in a melancholy jealousy, I retired from the Army (it being the reason I was not in the last conflict, when the Forces sent from *Sorastros* entred the Town) for that most desperately I blamed your inconstancy, since I be-

believed you had consented to *Osirus* desires. In this distracted posture I continued, until I was sent for by *Orsames*, to be made acquainted with your Dwarf's arrival, who propounded to me the design that was to be executed. But the Gods know, my heart being freed from that deadly suspicion, of your being won by the greatness of *Osirus* person, I was ready in my own conceit, to have reached a star from heaven, to have made you a present, in requital of the injury my thoughts had done your vertue; so that I stayed not long to consider of my resolution; by which example many of the youthfull Nobility, out of emulation, determined to take my part; however, the design was not only with a great deal of care, kept secret from the knowledge of the Common Souldiers, but it was ordained by the Council of War, that the Army it self should seem to retire from the siege, to give a greater cause of security to the Castle, whereby to be less prepared; so consequently the more easily surprized upon the execution of the enterprize; with these resolutions (being fortified with couragious hopes, since they carried with them the delivery of your excellent self, from a tyrannical Imprisonment, against all the Laws of Love and Justice) we sailed in small Barks up the River of *Nilus*; and yesterday by the conduction of your Dwarf, we entered undiscovered the Iron gate of the Cestern; where, after a little slaughter of the negligent watch, we became Masters of all the Courts of Guard of the Castle; and so with ease enough past into the Hall, until at last being discovered by some that fled from destruction, we were encountred by *Osirus*, and the Souldiers that attended upon his person; which gave us again new employment, since in truth, both he and his followers, defended themselves with a courage to
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be commended ; but in the end, our numbers (I cannot say altogether our valours) made them all either our Captives, or our Sacrifices. And so, sweet Princess, according to your command, you have the story of your own power, that is able to inspire the weakest Captives, with sufficient force to become Conquerors of the greatest Monarchs.

But he was scarce come to this point, when he felt the smart of a concealed wound he had received in his thigh, which he perceived not whilst he was hot with the fight ; so that presently he desired leave to retire into his Chamber, to have the assistance of the Chirurgions; which was granted him by *Cloria*, with a pretty fear, however of some danger, discovered by the often changing of colour in her face; yet when he was there and disarmed, the Physicians quickly found that it was but a flesh-wound, and therefore subject to no hazard, though some inconvenience; before he took his rest, because it began to be day, he commanded a Flag to be set upon the top of the Castle, to give warning to *Orsames* of the prosperous success of his enterprize; which gave occasion to the King presently, to march with his whole Army before the walls of the Town, which struck the minds of the people with such a sudden amazement, that upon a Message that was sent them to yield, they presently called a Council, to resolve what answer to return to so peremptory a demand; having also notice that *Osirus* was made a Prisoner in his own Castle. This procured a great mutiny amongst the Inhabitants; for the Townsmen having got the possession of the wals, by reason of the Souldiers late Sally, being willing to save their goods by any Composition, resolved to deliver *Memphis* to the enemies Forces; whilst the others, by way of honour, contend-

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ed against the determination, not without some slaughter on both sides; however, *Orsames* in the confusion assaulting the City, with the assistance of those Souldiers in the Castle, who set upon their backs, quickly reduced them to so much reason, that the Town was willing to render upon Composition; that *Osius* promising to pay such a ransom agreed upon, should have the freedom of his person; but *Orsames* would not yield, to have the glory of his Conquest spotted with any other condition; than what his own mercy was willing to grant; and with these thoughts prepared his Army again, to enter by force, vowing the destruction of all the Inhabitants. The Princess *Cloria* being informed of her Uncles resolution, sent a Messenger to desire him, that since she had been a Captive, so long a time to *Osius* power, that he would be pleased now, to make him personally a prisoner to her will, by which means she should in some sort, revenge the indignity that was done to her birth and condition. This being granted, she presently sent a discharge to *Osius*, to dispose of himself and Souldiers, in what way he should like for his most honour. The Prince, although he accepted of *Cloria* her noble courtesie, with all the expressions of thankfull acknowledgement could be devised, wherein he profest she had more overcome his thoughts, with her admirable humanity, than *Orsames* fortunes had his person with his prevailing power; yet he assured her, he would pay that ransom that was offered for his Liberty; and withall sent her a rich Chain of Pearl, of an inestimable vawew, which he besought her, she would wear on the day of her Marriage for his sake, as a remembrance of his desire, to crown her Queen not only of his Kingdoms, but of his heart. When the agreement was sealed by Com-

missioners of both sides, *Orsames* prepared to make his Triumphant entry into the City, wherein *Osirius* was intreated to be a party; but he not being able to brook the sight of a new Prince, to be installed in his Right, not only excused the acceptance of such a courtesie; but after he had given a Ceremonious visit to the Princess *Cloria*, though carried in a Chair, because his wounds would afford him no other commodity, he commanded himself to be placed in his Litter, and so carried to the next Garrison Town under his Jurisdiction, whilst *Orsames* as a most glorious Conqueror took possession of *Memphis* in this manner:

First, the Foot marched with Olive-branches in their hands, that foretold Peace and Prosperity to the Inhabitants, having all their Arms adorned with Flower-de-Luces gilded, besides the brightness of their Weapons, that by the reflection of the Sun, gave a terrifying though pleasing beauty to the Spectators. After these, came the Guard of *Orsames* person, being ten thousand in number, who were so expert by reason of their continual practice, that it was a question, whether they more honoured their Master in time of Peace, or defended him in occasions of War. When these were past, which shut up the first days triumph, the next morning the Nobility richly apparelled both in their own persons, and their horses Trappings, were ranked according to their degrees, who by the brave managing of their courageous Beasts, gave admirable delight to the beholders, since the Sun and the wind seemed both to conspire in the shew, for as the one gave a glittering grace to the splendor of their habits, so the other gently playing with their Feathers, rendred them more becoming. Then the great Officers of *Syria* pro-

proceeded in Chariots, by reason of their Ages and Dignities, with all their Ensigns of honour born before them, to mark out to the people the several qualities of their places, attended by multitudes of Pages and Footmen, distinguished by their several Liveries. After all these appeared *Philostros* himself, the very Soul of the Court, carried in an open Litter, since he was not to be eclipsed from the eyes of the multitude, whose Wisdom and Power was to give them Laws: however he was surrounded by a particular Guard of his own, to prevent all dangers to his person; and although his clothing was simply red Satten, yet his Attendants sufficiently shewed forth his glory. But *Orfames* was seated in a Throne drawn with four Elephants, wherein *Jupiter* might have triumphed, after his Victory against the Rebellious Giants, the Statue of *Mars* the God of War, was placed at his back, Crowning him with a Victorious Lawrel, whilst many *Cupids* seemed to support the curtains of his Chariot, where his Guard hem'd him in from the croud of the vulgar, though not from the sight of the People, since he was so high mounted in his Seat. After followed the Master of his Horse, leading a spare one of the *Arabian* breed, covered with a Caparison of Watchet Velvet, embroydered with Flower-de-Luces of Gold, bearing in his top a Phoenix Plume, which shew being past, the Cavalry of *Syria* brought up the Rear, who exceedeth no more for beauty and number, than for skill and valour: And in this Order followed their great Master, to the chief Gate of *Memphis*; vvhether entring, he vvas for some time entertained, vvith these Verses vvritten in Capitol Letters of Gold:

*Great Monarch of the Earth, now as the Sun,
 You do appear in Egypt's Horizon;
 By which reflection let Memphis Towers
 Shine ever with propitious howers,
 Until an influence fall from those beams,
 To enrich the vertue of old Nilus streams,
 That strange productions in his pregnant slime,
 May multiply as by a heat divine.
 So shall the fertile fields in every thing
 Paint forth the wonders of your Conquering;
 Whilst we worship your Rise with much more zeal
 Than doth the Abassine cloath'd in his veil,
 When at the Altar burning sacrifice,
 He doth invoke a God unknown for spice;
 And superstitiously will not believe
 Natures increase, but as such actions give:
 But we in Hieroglyphicks are bid to fear
 No force but yours that turns our Hemisphere;
 For if there come gentle looks from your eye,
 All here is blest, our fruits can never dye.
 Longer we shall not adoration sing,
 Unto Osirus, but Orfames King.*

Which finished, he went to the great Temple, to offer Sacrifice to the Gods for his prosperous victories, and afterward to the Castle, where *Cloria* stood ready at the gate to receive her Uncle, accompanied by the chief Ladies of the City.

But however every one seemed amazed, at that admirable beauty drest with so sweet a modesty, seeing her with bashfull blushes present her first salutations to *Orfames*, yet *Philos* whose youth and greatness might, as he thought, pretend to any love, without the contradiction of what interest soever, began to be kindled with violent flames at the brightness of the object,

object, though for the present, he tempered his passion from being perceived. This continued the longer hid, as well for want of opportunity to operate, as because the brave Prince of *Arabia*, who owed the protection of his Person and Country to *Orsames*, could not choose as he believed, but honour his Triumphs with some endeavours of his own: to that purpose he proclaimed in his Camp, a Turnament against all Comers, in the behalf of the beauty of his fair Mistress *Agusta*, which took up the employment, not only of all the youthfull Nobility, but also invited many Foreign Princes against the day appointed, to try their fortunes in that generous exercise: The place designed by *Orsames* command, was in a large Green without the walls of *Memphis*; when the time came the Prince of *Arabia* appeared in a white Armour, painted with craggy Rocks, whose tops seemed covered with snow; at the bottom of those hills lay a fruitfull Country, besprinkled over with buildings of all sorts; his Bases resembled the scales of Serpents, artificially represented by rich stones of several prices, which here and there placed by the cunning Workman, set forth to the life their natural spots. The reins of the bridle were made into the form of two Dragons necks, that seemed to bite at bunches of grapes hanging at the horse mouth, which were only the bosses of the bridle contrived into that resemblance, whilst the foam they cast about, appeared to be the poyson of the Serpents; so that the Bases representing their bodies, & their tails enterwoven one within another (which made the Crupper behind) the Prince seemed to the Spectators, to have been intangled by those venomous Creatures; And the more were their fancies deceived, by reason that his Caparison was wrought into the likeness of a turf of grass, all set

forth with divers coloured silks, in some parts russet, and other where green, as if preserved from the Suns violence, by the neighbouring shrubs, contrived artificially in the workmanship. In his shield was pictured a King, with a drawn sword in one hand, and a whip in the other, whilst a multitude of common people appeared to beg his mercy; his intention was only expressed by this Motto, *However I will prevail by love.* When the Prince had presented his service to *Orsames*, by the gallant managing of his horse before his Throne, after his obeysance, he retired to a rich Pavillion, at one end of the Tilt prepared for his repose, where he expected an Adversary.

The first that came to encounter him, was one *Cosme* a neighbouring Prince, though he seemed to fetch his extraction from *Italy*, his armour was painted over with a stately Town, whose Pinacles of the building, being imboist in the workmanship, and richly gilded, the beams of the Sun gave not a more glorious than pleasant reflection to the beholders, whose eyes were a little dazled with the sight, his Caparisons were cut out into the form of half Rocks, that seemed to have lost their aspiring tops, to give the City a fairer prospect, which covering a white horse he appeared not only to be graced by those curious ornaments, but his couragious deportment gave a wonderfull delight to the Spectators. In his shield was pictured a calm Sea, with a brave gally upon the quiet face of the water, loaden with Merchandize of all sorts, hanging over the sides of the decks, accompanied with this Motto; *This is my greatness.* After the Champions had performed all circumstances, required by the Laws prescribed them, finished their six courses with so equal a fortune, that it grew a hard question between the Judges, to which the victory did justly belong; but

but because *Orfames* was loath so suddenly to break off the sport, he was content without any more dispute, that his Nephew the Prince of *Arabia* should still keep the field, which privilege notwithstanding *Cosme* underwent with some grudging: however no Defendant that entred that day into the List, was able to revenge his quarrel, which finished the exercise until the next morning, when the peoples early assembly, brought forth again as great an expectation; notwithstanding it was late before any appeared, until at last a Knight called *Ferneze*, shot suddenly like lightning into the crowd, whose Arms were also of the same colour; but alas, he wanted force to pierce the Princes honour; for at the third course he was carried a Spears length from his horse, wch he conceived was a sufficient privilege, to warrant to him depart without taking leave, though he left many Companions behinde him, that all run the same fortune; this success not only concluded the actions of the second day, but began to spread abroad the fame of the Prince, insomuch as every one prepared, for the night Revels vvith the Ladies, until the Princes necessary retirement from those sports, to give himself some convenient rest against the next trial, invited the whole Company to their severall lodgings: Nevertheless, the challenger heated vvith his ovvn glory, the next day came into the field upon the first Summons of *Phaebus*, vvho had nevvely gilded the tops of the Mountains in his ovvn Country, before his Chamber-Windovv, as an early call to his Adversaries not to be slothfull.

But long he had not kept possession of the place, vvhere he had extremely vvon the hearts of the people, by his dexterous valour, before there appeared a Knight in blevv Armour, enlightned by the rays
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of a bright shining Sun , that seemed to the Spectators, the representation of a clear Heaven ; his Caparison and Bases were wrought into a delightfull pieceage, where many flocks of sheep seemingly pastured by a goodly River side ; in his shield he bore only a shep-hook with this Motto, *I have changed the Instrument*: As he was quickly known to be *Navarinus*, that had married the fair *Mantuina*, so before he had made many courses, he was taught by the Princess valour, that there was more safety in his former profession, which fortune also happened to many more, that endeavoured to encounter him ; as namely *Lorensens* husband to beautilous *Lawran* ; and *Frideus* , who thought only to have overcome by his choler ; with others of equal ambition: until about the latter end of the day, there suddenly started out two, at so even a distance to the eye of the Judges, that it was a question , which should have the preheminance in the incounter.

The one was armed in a white Armour, artificially painted over with a short mantle of *Tyrian* purple, that little more then covered his shoulders, his Bases were embroidered with an orderly procession of *Flamins*, and other priests clothed in white vestments; his Caparisons were cut out into multitudes of Soldiers, managing their several weapons. In his shield was pictured a heaven, with a person in his religious habit at his prayers, though seemingly distracted by the tumults at his back, which was explained by this Motto; *I cannot if I would*. The other Knight was only armed in green, with Bases and Caparison figuring oaken leavs, intermixt with Acorns of gold: in his shield was set forth a brave ship in full sail, though a black cloud behind it seemed to threaten a tempest, or rather shewed it had past a storm , exprest by

by this Motto ; *I speed me to my happiness* ; both striving to be formost in the encounter , they disputed the title , pretending each one to have the privilege , for that they intended to defend (as they said) the admirable beauty of the Princess *Cloria* , Daughter to the King of *Lydia* : this discovery seemed so much to increase their passion , by an appearing jealousy , that they presently drew out their swords to maintain the rest of the quarrel , until the green Knight by his prevailing blow , struck off the Helmet of the other , who appeared being disarmed , to be *Philos* the Nephew to the great favourite , which as suddenly stopt the courteous hand of his adversary : so that *Orsames* moved by such an accidental difference , came himself into the list , and by his own judgement , gave the prerogative of the first tryal to the strange Knight , who as he said deserved it , both in regard of his being a foreiner , and for that he had also by his fortune disarmed *Philos* .

After the King , and the rest of the company , were again placed in their seats , the two gallant Champions performed their courses , with such an equal bravery , that as it procured an extraordinary delight to the people , so it raised some difficulty in the opinion of the Judges , to whom they should grant the prize ; only the Prince of *Arabia* in his last course lost one of his Stirrups , which was the reason that the question was once more brought before the King , as the supreme Judge of the sport : however the Prince , because he would overcome the strange Knight with his courtesie , though not with his lance , prevailed so far with *Orsames* , that he might buy his friendship by the discovery of his person , unto whose honour he was willing to sacrifice the victory , hoping to purchase thereby as he said , a greater Jewel , which was his acquaintance .

quaintance. With that the green Knight presently pulling off his head-piece, was known of every one to young *Narcissus*, who understanding, that the admirable beauty of his dear Mistress *Cloria*, was not yet maintained by any valour (though jealous he proved, when he found *Philos* undertake the defence) he dispensed with the inconveniency of his own wound, that appeared by his halting, and privately arming himself came into the List, either to be conquered or finish his Adversaries glory.

The unexpected discovery of *Narcissus* person after the Turnament, gave occasion to all the people, with a kind of a Triumphal though confused Acclamation, to express their extraordinary Joy, in that none but he as they said who had subdued *Osirus* greatness, deserved the honour of those martial sports: however the gallant youth, esteemed his desires but half satisfied, until he had also in some sort, procured the approbation of the beautiful Princess, since she alone he reckoned the sole period of his endeavours: Therefore when he had performed his humble respects to *Orfames*, according to the lawes of the Tilting, and the Custom of the Countrey, he presently cast himself at the feet of his glorious Mistress, with these words in his mouth: As it may easily be perceived what a powerful influence your rare perfections have over all hearts, and actions of men, so no doubt the heavens in a particular manner design, to render you the admirable pattern of your sex, since your lustre not only hath created in me a new ability, but the very power of your name, doth induce my Noble adversary, to attribute to my small performance, those victories I never merited; therefore as your own goodness will daily invite you, to frequent the Gods

Altars,

Altars, with your welcome and acceptable sacrifices, so must I beseech you, to vouchsafe this brave Prince such a congratulation, as may fully pay the score of my obligation, who freely hath bestowed upon me, that by no right whatsoever could I challenge.

Cloria, although she spake her own inward content, in nothing but bashful smiles, yet the sparkling earnestness of her fair eyes sufficiently shewed how far her heart was taken, with the fortunes and bravery of her servant, in so much as the whole multitude cryed out presently for the solemnization of the ceremonies belonging to their nuptials, pretending the City of *Memphis* that had endured so long a siege, being at last delivered by the occasion of their loves, might in some sort enjoy the honour of such Triumph. This caused *Orsames*, to take the lovely Couple by the hands, with intention to perform the Office himself : but *Cloria* rather conquering her inward passions, than giving way to her own desires, told her Uncle, that nature and education had taught her thoughts a better duty, than precipitately to give away her person in such an Assembly, without the privacy and allowance of those, who had as she conceived a principal right and interest in her disposal ; The King, by reason of this strict prohibition from such an authority, was forced to desist from his purpose ; however he could not in his mind, but much commend his Nieces temper and discretion: Yet poor *Narcissus* (who seemed at the instant, struck with some killing disease) finding his principal hopes thus in a moment blasted, when he thought he had had his happiness in possession, had not one word to utter, either of a reproof or perswasion, so that he could not chuse, but extremely blame such a rigid severity ; until *Cloria* again by a gentle smile, gave him (as he thought)

thought) some new encouragement, though no otherwife, than like people brought upon the scaffold ready to dy, might receive from flattering enducements, to be reprived, being only framed by their own indulgent fancies, without any other grounds; for alas alas, Tyrant honour, had so strong a predomination in *Cloria's* disposition, that death would sooner have been entertained in her wishes, than the least decorum belonging to her bashfull principles, could have been omitted in her resolutions: In so much as all her faithfull lover *Narcissus* was to expect for the present, was comfortable hopes of a future fruition: which soon conducted the whole company to the Castle, the place designed during *Orsames* stay, not only for the glories of his Court, but for the recreation of all the other Princes, who spent the Time for the most part, in casting what honours they could, upon the youthfull lovers, whilst in the interim *Philostros* was imployed in receiving and entertaining Ambassadors, that from all places came to congratulate his Masters victories.

But of the contrary *Philos*, *Philostros* Nephew, began by little and little, to engender dark clouds of discontent in his unquiet bosome, from whence proceeded at last, thoughts of hatred and revenge, not only in regard of those sparckes of love, which had flown from the bright rayes of *Clorias* beauty, but also, for that he found how all mens opinions, were transported beyond measure, to magnifie the gallant deserts of brave *Narcissus*, which (as he believed) did not a little overshadow his own former successes in the wars. These distempers, I say, did not alone make him all day abstain from cheerfull company, but in the night time raised, for the most part, such extravagant fancies in his ambitious and working brain, that

that he remained in manner continually tormented in his rest; however, he endeavoured all he could, to keep the passions from the knowlede of vulgar eyes; or at leastwise, the causes of them: but as love and envy are two properties, too violent to be supprest in a heart inflamed with pride and prosperity, when as their effects can hardly be protracted, *Philos* was induced, after he had in a sort taken counsel of his haughty thoughts, and digested them in the general, to comply with his resolutions, to fall upon wicked and ignoble designs, seeing no way else could possibly bring about his purposes, according to his own unruly appetites: And that was, violently to destroy the innocent and vertuous loves, between *Cloria* and *Narcissus*; which conveniency and opportunity was granted him, by reason there remained certain messengers in the City of *Memphis*, sent from the Senate of *Lydia*, among other troops of Ambassadors, imployed to complement *Orsames* prosperity.

To this effect he made choyce of one of them, not being willing to communicate his secrets to more, untill he could finde a probable assurance his project should heartily be entertained: as soon as this man repaired to his presence, after some usual speeches of kindeness and flattery, he conducted him by the hand, into a private Cabinet of his own scarce visited by any person whatsoever but himself, being loath either to be discovered or interrupted; where, when he had made him sit down by him, with more than ordinary familiarity, he uttered his mind unto him after this sort.

Sir, said he, as you cannot but know by that prosperous progress, which *Enarchus* your King hath already made in his Wars, against the forces of your Senate

nate at *Sardis*, that not only the least assistance, but any small discountenance from forein Princes, will utterly destroy your endeavours, towards the compassing of your ends, in bringing him to a conformity with your intentions, though the world be yet scarce acquainted with what you desire; so may you by evident demonstrations perceive, how far hitherto, my Uncle *Philostros* hath complied with your purposes, as well in rendring *Orsames* indifferent to your proceedings, both against perswasion and his own inclination, as in seeming to countenance those actions of yours, which not only appears destructive to his Tenents, but in a manner is against the very honour of his family; for that *Hyacinthia* the Queen of *Lydia*, is as you very well know, a branch of the royal house of *Syria*: so that by these comportments it is plain, what obligations you owe the great favourite, who carries with him almost the power of all *Asia*; however herhaps you may be perswaded, he hath some other design in his heart, than barely your good, against which I will not dispute: yet by the way give me leave to tell you, that notwithstanding states-men, do not use to favour any cause or party, without their own interest, to be considered in the first place, yet of the other side, when both benefits may go together, you ought not, either to examine the reason, or be any way backward to entertain the occasion, but rather with violent wings of passion fly at the prosecution; concerning which, when I shall have understood your determination, you may know more of my minde.

It was something long, before the Ambassadour returned him any answer at all, being as it were surprized between fear and doubt, what himself ought to think, or what the other meant to do; yet at last
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breaking through his seeming amazement, he delivered these words, with a humility answerable to the necessity (as he thought) his Masters had of his Uncles assistance, not only to hinder any supplies, to be sent from the State of *Syria* to *Euarchus*, but to continue still the accustomed commerce and Trade, between the two Nations, without which it was impossible for the Kingdom of *Lydia* to subsist.

My Lord (said he) As it is well known, what most glorious effects, the wisdom and industry of your great Uncle, have produced towards the welfare and prosperity of *Syria*, that in former times, continued so many yeers impropoyled in civil Wars and domestic Troubles, by reason of the power and inconsistency of the ambitious Nobility, who scarce gave their Kings rest and quietness from care and vexation, in regard of those hereditary commands they challenged, by a lasting descent from their proud Ancestors, not to be bridled by any endeavours and perswasion, which now I say by the Gods goodness you have happily suppressed, so cannot our present and well-minded *Senate*, but in a very high nature, not only own all those signal favours, bestowed upon them by your most Illustrious family, in the prosecution of our late transactions with our Prince (whom we still desire notwithstanding to love and honour, though he seem to be an utter stranger to our honest intentions) but humbly beg a continuance still of those benefits, as well by your countenance in the Kingdome of *Syria*, as for that you have so much interest amongst all the Princes of the lesser *Asia*, who appear only to depend upon your fortunes and success: wherefore since you have been pleased so far to declare your self in the behalf of our Country, (the secret reason of which I shall no more examine,

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mine, than what you wisdom shall be willing to reveal, to direct those services you would have us undertake to perform) I do faithfully promise before the immortal Gods, not only to make my Masters acquainted with advantage, how great a happiness they may pretend unto, in the conserving intirely your affection to themselves, but also in using what other means they can, to become alwayes beneficial to your principle: And with these words offered to kiss his hands, with other protestations of his own humble endeavours upon all occasions.

Philos, by this discourse, with the seeming earnestness of the Ambassadour, finding in a manner he might be confident of his fidelity, when as also he had thanked him for such effectuell professions, he began again with him to this effect:

Then said *Philos*, since I suppose you have judgment enough to understand your own good, as well as to be gratefull for our benefits, I wil make the less difficulty to acquaint you with this story upon which my desires must be grounded: within this great City of *Memphis*, newly as I may say conquered by *Orsames* fortunes, but in truth rather by *Philosiros* policy) there remains a Lady of our house named *Artemesia*, whose beauty joyned with her other excellent endowments of nature (if it be not folly thus to speak of a sister) being considered, without a spightfull partiality against the honour of our blood, may merit the highest preferment in *Asia*: between this sister of mine I say, and young *Narcissus* the Duke of *Cyprus* Son, now present in these wars, there hath been formerly a Treaty of a marriage; however their few years and the neglectfull prosecution of their friends in those Times gave it neither birth or much motion: It rested in this posture untill this late siege, that

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Artemesia being compelled by a certain kinde of a necessity, by reason of the removal of *Philostros* family into the camp was compelled to accompany her great Uncle, but since her arrival at Court, she not only became an ear-witness of *Narcissus* comportment, but hath also been present at some of those atchivements, comportments of his, which for the present hath afforded him a competent opinion in the Army: whether his person or his fame have most taken her fancy I will not say. But these inflammations joyned with the former Treaty, have created such an opinion in her thoughts, that she conceiveth her reputation to the world to be blemished, if *Narcissus* be suffered to offer his affections to any other but her self, without her privity and consent: In the interim nevertheless understanding, that the Queen of *Lydia* arriving by chance upon the Island of *Cyprus*, hath occasioned *Nacissus* to fall in love with the Princess *Gloria*, (whereby she esteems her self slighted, and dishonoured, not only in regard of the former Treaty mentioned, but also in that any should appear in this horizon, more worthy of respect than the Niece of great *Philostros*) is grown desperate in her resolution: whether I may call her passions preposterous or no, I will not dispute, only I may probably believe, that *Narcissus* loves to *Gloria*, are neither grounded upon right or reason, since as our Treaty if not engagement was begun upon more mature consideration, accompanied perhaps with some promises of either side, so can it not ever be thought, that the declining condition of *Euarchus*, will at any time bring happiness to the Island of *Cyprus*; much less to the Duke thereof, when as all the benefit he shall receive from such ambition, must be the exhausting of his treasure, & the endangering of his command, but how-

ever he and his son may apprehend the consequence of such a conjunction to themselves, yet no reason o-ther Countries should be debarred of their own advantages, when they shall be offered means to prosecute the particular: It is sufficient we think it not convenient for your state or our kingdome: which being, for the most part, allowed common people of never so inferior a rank, much more is it to be granted, Kings and Princes of the highest dignity: If reasons of state, shall break and make mariages contracted by friends and kindred, what prerogative shall be denyed enemies to exercise one against another, when either danger or benefit appears in the consequence? the Gods do but unite hearts in Nuptial Tyes, for the commodity of men, and certainly all generals, are to be preferred before particular Interests, which being granted as a maxim, and the proof demonstrated of the good or evill, in my opinion we ought not to stumble at the execution: for as in my own conscience I am satisfied in the right of our pretensions, So if you may make War with your King, because he doth not satisfie the publick, without any question you may also possess your selves of all that is his, by the same Justice.

To this purpose therefore be advertized: that as 'tis resolved by the Princess *Cloria* (notwithstanding *Narcissus* violent prosecution) not to make election of him or any other for her husband without the full approbation of her Mother, so very probably may it be conceived, that the youth will be able, to pretend fairly to her love, being in his own Countrey; when as he shall not only have the commodity of sollicitation, accompanied by the remembrance of all those services he hath performed for her honour and safety, but also for that it may be thought by *Hyacinthia*
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your Queen, that the marriage of her daughter with *Narcissus*, may prove to be a benefit of extraordinary consequence to her husbands business, when by that means she may think, to procure money in his Wars from the Dukes Coffers, being engaged to the same quarrel in the right of his Sons wife: besides, it is to be supposed (or at least will be so imagined) by those about the Queens person, that the very interest of the Dukes power in the Island of *Cyprus* (by reason of the numerous shipping in their Havens) will upon all occasions be able to supply *Euarchus* necessities, either with ammunition or souldiers, according to the need he shall have in his intention against your Senate at *Sardis*: and who knowes not but *Cyprus* is a situation, more proper for his affaires and assistance, than any other Country in *Asia* whatsoever? All which being considered, (though the interest of our family should not at all be concerned) you cannot be thought competent States-men, if you should not with all your endeavour, labour a breach of this intended marriage, before it be past your reach and power to prevent: for probably the means will never again, be so fairly presented unto your resolutions.

The Ambassador, when *Philos* began to take a little breath replied; that as it was the greatest part of his own duty, to hearken to all designs, that might any way advantage his Masters proceedings at *Sardis*; so would he not fail in his own particular, but to contribute the best of his endeavours, to render both him and his Illustrious family satisfied, hoping withall (as he said) that the Gods would largely assist to the protection of *Lydia* and the prosperity of *Syria*, by such an indissolvable tye of Friendship and Commerce, that might make *Orsames* give Laws to the rest of the world.

Philos after he had made himself more confident, from the earnest profection of the Ambassadour, went on with this discourse in this manner:

These two (said he) pretended lovers, *Cloria* and *Narcissus*, (who rather may be esteemed fools in posterous affection, than true Politicians towards a well grounded and settled love, since as it may be thought, they neither fear prevention or provide against accidents) are now precipitately hastening their journey into *Cyprus*, where belike they hope to crown their wishes, with an entire happiness in every kind can be desired; however they give out, their supposed violence to be gone, proceeds from their passionate inclinations, to receive the benedictions of their parents, after so long a time of absence from their company and presence: but whether it be so or no, (or rather their intentions are built upon their own private and secret resolutions one to another, which *Cloria* on her part is ashamed publicly to discover) I will not dispute; Only prevented they must be in their passage by Sea, and this cannot conveniently be put in execution any other way, than by your brave and invincible Navy, which will not only absolutely take off all opinion of jealousy, in regard of your Senates difference with *Euarchus*, but when you have by this means separated the young Couple, and so by consequence destroyed their loves, you may have the benefit and commodity, to dispose of the Princess person, to what match you shall think most probable for your advantages; whereas in doing otherwise (whether she marry *Narcissus* or no) it is likely to whomsoever she shall be contracted, both their obligations and promises must be grounded upon conditions to assist *Euarchus* in his Wars against your Senate; which perhaps

haps may prove of too great a concernment and prejudicial to your affairs : in short, this is all I have to say unto you, until I know more of your mind.

As the Ambassadour was very fearful to displease *Philos*, considering the need the Senate of *Lydia* had of his Uncles friendship, so of the other side he was most unwilling (if not partly resolved) not to undertake of himself, a business of such a dangerous consequence, where the Island of *Cyprus* might have any interest in the design; so that after something a long pawse, as if he borrowed leave of his consideration to make a reply, he returned him this answer :

My Lord, said he, although I would not have you in any kind think, I either fall from my affections, or go from my professions, yet I must humbly beseech your Goodness, I may propose to your wisdom these two doubts, that in regard I am but a Messenger, must needs rest upon my thoughts, with some fearful apprehension, what I ought to do in the quality of my office and imployment : the first is, with what security or probability can I undertake the design? unless I make my Masters at *Sardis*, acquainted with each particular; who not only must grant out their commission to their Admiral at Sea, before any thing can be effected, but of the other side, are to provide a considerable number of ships, to be able to contend (if any resistance should be made) with those Vessels, that are commanded to wait upon the Princess in her journey; the other, to be satisfied, how the Duke of *Cyprus* should again be rendred pacified after such a violence offered to a company, in whom he may challenge an interest, but peaceably comming into his Countrey, from the dominions of *Orsames* King of *Syria* : for however *Cloria* her selfe, may be esteemed a subject of *Lydia*, being the

ter of *Euarchus*, yet *Narcissus* will still be known to be the son of the chief commander of *Cyprus*; who therefore ought not to have tasted of the injury; whereupon of necessity, some dangerous consequence must follow, which herhaps our present governours, will be most unwilling to put to the hazard.

Philos by this reply, sufficiently perceived the craft and cunning of the Ambassador; that was not to be engaged, with any disadvantage for any party, notwithstanding all his violent and glorious professions: besides by his discourse, he found (as he imagined) a great deal more affectionate desire in his thoughts, to entertain a firm correspondency with the Common wealth of *Cyprus*, than with the State of *Syria*; which upon any terms he was resolved to hinder, as conceiving it extremely prejudicial to the interest of his own Nation: not only in regard of the situation of the Island, but also for that *Cyprus* formerly ever had, a most particular dependancy upon the Kingdom of *Syria*, both for trade and protection: wherefore after a little time of silence, dressing his countenance with a certain kinde of scornfull smile, as if not only he contemned his doubts, but also disvalued his reasons; at the same instant taking him by the hand, and griping it something hard, as it were between kindness and choler, he delivered himself unto him in this manner.

Alas poor men said he, where are your courages and wisdoms? Truly for my part, I do not more wonder, how you durst with such low thoughts, undertake such desperate designs against your Prince, than now when you have made such a progress in them (as I may say past any retreat) you seem to stumble at small resolutions: no my friend be you
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assured, there is not any obstacle can so soon obstruct the full period of your designs, as the want of putting in execution this project; for by that omission, you do not only afford your enemy *Euarchus* breath and assistance, by the certain supply he shall have from the Island of *Cyprus*, in regard of this marriage but you are assured to lose a friend of our family, who can most hurt you in these parts of *Asia*, not finding you willing to pleasure us, when the occasion is fairly offered into your hands: however that you may be converted, and made know that I perfectly perceive your error, I shall in a few arguments, give some answer to your fears; for I see weak digestions must have light meats for their appetites, not only to keep them from surfeit, but squeemishness: I do the more willingly study your satisfaction in this nature, that if it be possible, you may perswade your Masters at *Sardis* to undertake this giant work with less difficulty: nevertheless I must also tell you, what is to be done, must be done presently, in regard the Princess presseth her departure with all violence.

In the first place therefore that you may send to your Senate, to acquaint them with the design intended, is not only fit but necessary, though withall I must warn you, that it ought not to be communicated, but to a few privatly, lest being revealed, you not only thereby lose the benefit of the project, but shall also contract more enmity of a ridiculous consequence against your proceedings, having falsely undertaken as (your adversaries will interpret) a business of this nature, that you had not the understanding sufficient to prosecute to the end: This in like manner gives intimation to advertise you, of only two ships providing for the young peoples transportation, the one for *Cloria*, the other for *Narcissus*:

su: in the next place, whereas you pretended a fear, that the discourtesie shewed to the Duke of *Cyprus* son must probably raise a difference between your state and the Island of *Cyprus*, which your Masters would be loath to venture; I must inform you, in that you shew your selves but weak Statesmen; then as it is well known by the practice of all the laws of *Asia*, an enemy, where he can upon the Seas, may prejudice another enemies particular, without an offence done to a third person, so that it is plain you may seize upon your Kings daughter in any posture you finde her, restoring all other free persons, to the common right of Nations: Besides, how is it possible the Duke should come to be informed of any design intended to either? wherefore this must be esteemed as a meer accidental encounter and no otherwise; especially when it is to be supposed your Senate at *Sardis*, could not take any notice of any private engagement between *Cloria* and *Narcissus*, and so consequently no just offence ought to be taken by the Island of *Cyprus* at such proceedings, knowing what differences are daily increasing in the Kingdome of *Lydia*, between the King and his u Subjects: and farther I must tell you, that as I interpret this project, chiefly executed for the advantage of our family, so you may be sure to be kept in the favour of my Uncle, as if it had been only effected in his particular; whereas in effect your Senate hath the sole benefit: 'Tis true, I must confess, some natural affection to my sister, hath a little raised my passion, considering how that in her person, our house is something dishonoured; yet if other maxims of State, were not to be preserved, and put in execution, by your undertaking this design, I should rather chuse to leave off the enterprize, than too violently & foolishly endeavour to satisfie a wo-

mans humour; farther in this I shall not need to reveal my self unto you, since it is sufficient, your Masters may gain by the bargain, and for the Dukes power to do you any considerable mischief, if he should have any such determination, you may easily free your selves from the apprehension of such terrors, *Orsames* great Favorite being your friend, when as that Prince hath not only his meer dependency upon our Court, but hath also purchased many honours, and other considerable fortunes in the Kingdome of *Syria*; so that of necessity alwayes he must be circumscribed by our lawes and pleasure, rather than by his owm will and passion: besides, I am confident, when he shall again have received his Son, freed from his fantastical love and rambling adventures, he will easily be perswaded to believe, that he hath made by much a better exchange, than if he had been married to the Princess, who for her Dower, could have but brought the troubles of her Father, to have incombered if not ruined his house; especially when as presently upon this separation, the old propositions shall follow from my Uncle to the Duke, concerning a speedy match to be concluded (if he please) between my sister *Artemesia* and his Son *Narcissus*, which I am sure will far better content the people, who by nature neither love Titles nor Trouble, but rather expect gain and protection which they have from us, and cannot have by *Euarchus*: besides these reasons that I have given you for your fuller instruction, whereby you may be the better able to satisfy your Senate sitting at *Sardis*, I shall only add to your consideration this one particular: how is it possible for you to subsist, in you contention against your King, if either we deny your Trade in our dominions, or withdraw from your assistance the mountainous

nous *Myfians*, although we should not endeavour to set upon you, with any other mischief: so that these things being increased, by those disadvantages we can afford you, not only in the discountenancies of other Princes, but in such Forces we can readily send for the benefit of your King; I doubt not but you may be quickly convinced in your opinion, that your best policy will be, to comply with our occasions, since we can so easily as you see blow away all your attempts against *Euarchus*: with these words he offered to depart, as if he grew something careless of his resolutions.

But the Ambassador, however he was ambitious to have still retained *Philostros* friendship, without either engagement to *Philos*, or offence to any other State, yet finding that as it was impossible by any craft, to compass his designs upon the greatest esteemed Politician in *Asia*, so the time for the departure of the Princess *Cloria*, was expected to be so suddenly, that of necessity he was at the very instant, to declare some settled thing in his resolution, for *Philos* satisfaction and his own security: wherefore taking *Philos* by his Robe, a little to stay his course from going away from him, after he had thanked him for the generous opinion he seemed to have of his own fidelity, to the service of his Family, when he durst trust him as he said with a secret of such a nature and consequence, he vowed not only, with as much industry and understanding as possibly he could, to make his Masters acquainted with the design, but also to be very sensible of the obligations due from the State of *Lydia* to himself, whereby the *Senate* might be ready upon all occasions, to be serviceable to his Illustrious and most Noble Family, in requital of his many Favours: when he had ended these Complements (and probably

probably they were not any otherwise to be esteemed, since for the most part Ministers of State, are not much troubled either with good nature or charity) he demanded of *Philos*, whether or no he should make his fellow Commissioners privy to any of these passages; for that as he said having equal authority with himself, it might else be imputed to him as an act either of presumption, or give cause of too great a suspicion, not to communicate the intentions to such Counsels, before it was to be moved to the Senate of *Lydia*: for that said *Philos*, if at any time these proceedings come to be laid to your charge as a crime, you may very well allege my desire was, by way of condition to the contrary, in regard there were so many Spies remaining of other Nations at *Memphis*, that scarce could it have been hid from publick knowledge: neither would I have many of your unnecessary Senators themselves, made knowing of such a secrecy between us, so cautious I am in that particular: but only to be imparted to the Assembly called your Juncto, who as I understand, are the sole Managers of all Transactions of this nature, whether abroad or at home: This being also promised by the Ambassador, he intimated that *Philos* would be pleased, to protract as long as was possible, the departure of the young Couple, not only as he said, whereby his Masters might have the better conveniency, to digest all their Resolutions, to the most advantage for the design intended, but also to have time sufficient, whereby he himself might be truly informed from *Sardis* (by some of his own particular Friends) in what nature the Senate was disposed in the prosecuting of their purposes, either against their King or any other Nation.

When *Philos* had condescended to all the desires of
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the Ambassador, having first as may be supposed rendered him fully satisfied in very many particulars in State policy, which the Messenger before had neither learned or understood, they took their leaves of one another, with such an entire embracement, as if their bodies were perpetually to be joyned in nature, as their souls were combined in the destructive designs, to the poor lovers felicities : but now *Philos* being left alone, with a strong confidence of the wished success of his unhandsome project, he pleased himself sufficiently with the consideration, how much he found the Ambassador inferiour to his skill, in political rules ; for that by a contrary stratagem, it seemed to him easie, to destroy all the *Lydian* Fleet, if he did not conceive, that the effecting of this enterprize, would be much more advantageable to his affairs ; and at the worst he knew, it was in his power by discovering the design, before it was acted, to create such a jealousy between the two common governments, as would alwayes make them at odds one against another, to the commodity and benefit of *Orsames* Kingdom ; which could not any way be overpowered, but by the conjunction of those two Nations at Sea, who only abounded in multitude of shipping ; which how ever she intended to put in practice, when he had compassed his own ends upon them both : in the mean time he was content to let the *Lydian* Ambassador, not only to play with his own thoughts, but to become instrumental for some season to his purposes ; that were upon the surprisal of the Princess *Cloria*, and the separation of her love, to demand *Enarchus* daughter of the Senate for his wife ; not doubting but the sute would be easily granted, in regard of that friendship, they desired to maintain with his Uncle *Philostros*, And then also, to make

make the like motion to the Duke of *Cyprus*, concerning a marriage to be made between his Son *Narcissus* and his own Sister *Artemesia*, which he conceived might be done without the least suspicion he had any former hand in the design; for he knew the Ambassador durst not reveal the secret publicly, lest it might be suspected himself to have combined or plotted the discourtesie offered to the Island of *Cyprus* in the violence used at Sea to *Cloria* and *Narcissus*; And at the worst he supposed, he could deny at his pleasure any such thing by him contrived, though the Ambassador should affirm it.

Philos now having eased (as I may say) the heavy weight of that burthen, which he found lay continually upon his confused thoughts and working fancy, not onely by reason of his love to *Cloria*, but his hate to *Narcissus*, began also to think, that dissimulation from that time forward, would be a most necessary companion to all the rest of his actions, since as already, he had betrayed the lovers felicities in his own determinations, so were they, with others of *Orsames* Court to be kept, as much as might be free from all suspicion & jealousy, until the grand project contrived between him and the Ambassador, (who undertook to be the messenger himself) might have a fitting conveniency to be put in execution, wch he could not yet be certain of, until the return of his desire should come from the Senate of *Lydia*: in the interim he had warned the Ambassador, not to use his name to his Masters in the particularity of the design; but rather to seem as if the consideration had only moved from his own intelligence being at *Memphis*, of the departure of *Cloria* and *Narcissus*: nevertheless to ingratiate himself the more in their belief, he wished the Ambassador in the general, to intimate to
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his Masters at *Sardis*, how great a friend *Philostros* his Uncle intended to be, not only to their Nation, but also to their proceedings: in prosecution of this intention of dissimulation, *Philos* put on a better countenance, in all manner of societies than he was accustomed; intermixing himself with the most delightful company, both of the Town and Court, and to this purpose, he would not only often go a hunting of *Estriges*, according to the frequent use of the Country, in the wild deserts bordering upon the confines of *Egypt*, attended by many of the ordinary sorts of people, but perswaded the King himself, to celebrate in an antient Theatre neer the *Pyramides*, the magnificent sports of fighting with Lyons, and other ravenous beasts of *Africa*; but chiefly with an intention, to entertain the youthful thoughts of *Cloria* & *Narcissus*, that they might not so violently think upon their intended journey into *Cyprus*: Amongst all these projects contrived in his brain, one day when *Orsames* was a hunting, he addrest himself to *Narcissus* particularly, intending a little to feel his inclinations, or rather I may say, to perswade his judgement, contrary to the very maxims of his heart, where in a most familiar way he used this kind of discourse unto him:

My Lord, said he, it seemeth strange unto me, how the glory of your youth and valour, can be confined to any other region in the world than *Syria*? where not only worth is best understood, but virtue from thence seems to take her birth and original; for in truth other nations appear but to practise by her imitation and example: Sciences there I must tell you, are taught new rules to walk by, whilst admiration stands at a maze, to behold more than could be thought were possible, for both art and nature to produce to
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mans capacity to understand : if you look at the Court, you may see, how riches and honour go hand in hand, to work visible miracles in the eyes of all strangers, imagining during their abroad there, they remain rather in some enchanted Palaces, than in earthly dwellings, since beauties are so numerous and excellent of both sexes, that the variety in a manner confounds the apprehension : If the streets of *Damascus* be considered in each particular, what can be more magnificent to the view, than to see gilded and triumphant Chariots, filled with Nymphes and Ganymedes, ride through multitudes of popular acclamations, for great *Orfames* continued prosperity; youth there in academies, are taught such civility & knowledge that they are redred men in all perfections, whilst they seem scarce to be yet born for their years : there I must say, sacrifices flye, with so much zeal up to the heavens, from the Altars of those Temples, where reverend Priests are ever attending, to discharge religiously those offices, appointed them by the immortal Gods; as cannot but procure prosperity to our Nation : The victories of our Armies dispersed over all *Asia*, make not only wonder at a stand, but even fame it self weary with sounding : The Martial glory of *Orfames* after his conquests, is a spectacle not more terrifying, than delightful to common spectators; that are not able to understand the Theory of his greatness: In fine, our Ladies there in assemblies, want not confidence, to make their beauties appear to the most advantage, and yet all is so varnished over with a bashful modesty, as if nature only had learned an art to be best becoming; In discoursing they seem to be the fairest Syrenes, without any intention at all of deceit, only by a Noble power, they force men to be their captives, because virtue and honour

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know not where again to be so well satisfied, as in that imprisonment: if our laws and policies be observed, they rather teach preventions, by their threatned severity and wise cautions, than have any intention in their constitutions either to destroy or circumvent people; all which being considered, I see no reason why your excellent virtues, accompanied with an age not yet exceeding eighteen, should want those justifiable ambitions, as not violently to covet against all obstacles, such rareties that can only bestow upon you lustre and greatness, when as the contrary perhaps, will render you less famous than you are, for nothing, but because you have not yet tasted personally of those perfections in *Syria*, granting in your own particular, you are already furnished with them, in a large measure beyond other people: but perchance you may say you have not only seen *Damascus* already in passing by: but the glory of *Orsames* in these Wars, which I must tell you, is no other than to behold beauties in the night, or the King in his eclipsed splendor: all which my Lord I only say, to give my self the greater happiness, by enjoying still your company, not knowing but these motives, might divert your present intentions from *Cyprus*, with that excellent Lady the Princess *Gloria*, whom you seem to conduct, which office I cannot deny, but in it self is a most supreme happiness; but since it may be conceived both the Duke your Father, and the Queen her Mother, would be glad of the occasion in their own persons to visit *Orsames* Court: me thinks you may have reason enough to alter your resolution: when he had done *Narcissus* answered him in this manner.

O Sir said he, you are mistaken, a stronger influence a great deal, draws both my thoughts and person

son into the Island of *Cyprus*, than all those rarities you have numbred up in the Kingdom of *Syria*, since one perfect carbuncle (by whose light I must sail) is more worth, than a thousand other stones of less value : And if you would behold beauties indeed, look upon the fair Lillies and Roses in *Cloria's* cheeks, whose dainty mixtures in the whole, appear to be a sweet and heavenly Garden, composed of such flowers, that the earth cannot parallel either in tast or colour ; whilst her fair eyes are two powerful suns of equal brightness, that can illuminate all places of the world alike, though never so much darkened by natures malice, if she but there vouchsafe her presence : her perfections I say are Books sufficiently instructive, to teach the world knowledge and science, in which are to be daily read, multitudes of several varieties of that excellency, that greatest Doctors know not how to define them, but in loves Academy ; when she moves, you may behold a certain shining throne of sanctity, whereon are placed Altars in abundance, whereon are only Sacrifices offered to her self, of wounded hearts that need compassion ; when as in the interim her Musick, when she pleasech, charmeth mortals with a ravishing delight, to such extasies of pleasure & content, that they seem to be ambitious of no other happiness : you speak of glorious victories gained by your powerful Armies ; when as every look of hers, is able to conquer whole Nations without resistance, and Favourites to Kings, must of necessity become slaves in those Triumphs : These last words could not chuse but reflect upon *Philos*, apprehending that either *Narcissus* had some inkling of his intentions, or that a divine inspiration had secretly instructed him in his thoughts and desires ; wherefore at the instant he began to blush,

with a certain kinde of inward guilt, that proceeded from his apprehension rather than his judgement: for the Gods knew *Narcissus* only spake, by the meer instigation of his own partial affection, produced from the flames of his constant and vertuous love, hearing *Philos* utter such vanities, in commendation of his own Country, to the disparagement of all other places.

But how this discourse, or rather Dialogue would have been concluded between them, cannot well be determined, since a great *Panther* belonging to those deserts, lying secretly in certain shrubs by the side of a pool, not only for the present interrupted them, but violently flew upon *Philos*, as he rid along with *Narcissus*; which quickly overturned both him and his horse, to the apparent danger and hazzard of his life, but that *Narcissus* having a hunting spear in his hand, quickly stroke the beast so fortunately in the brest, that the blood soon followed the wound in great abundance; however the furious or I may say rather valiant creature, seemed so little to be discouraged by the stroak, that with an appearing outward rage, to find himself so assaulted contrary to his expectations looking first upon *Narcissus*, as if he either challenged him with unkindness or in gratitude, for having attempted him without any provocation, and then turned his eyes again upon *Philos*, as if yet he made some question in his thoughts, whether he should release his seeming conquered Captive, or be revenged upon his injurer, at last flew at *Narcissus* with such a spight and violence, as not only put him to his best defence, but undoubtedly had prevailed exceedingly to his prejudice, if *Philos* had not hastily disengaged himself from the inconvenience of his fall, and made hast to his assistance as fearing
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else his own death might follow, which soon obliged them all three to most sharp and desperate combate : And however the *Panther* received multitudes of wounds by their industry , in so much as it was impossible for him to escape destruction , yet with his claws , seising by chance upon the left arm of *Narcissus*, he made in it so deep an impression , that he tore part of the flesh from the bone, shewing that he was even ambitious of revenge in his last end ; for presently in a staggering manner (not having strength sufficient remaining, to support any longer his own body, which one might perceive his courage was loath to confess) he fell backward upon his tail , and so rested for a great space, panting and blowing with open mouth : but both *Narcissus* and *Philos*, not being very willing to complement with his intentional fury gave him so many other stroaks in all parts, that not long it was before they left him for dead, in the interim many of the huntsmen comming into the place : but the beast, as if he yet retained some vigour or malice in his heart , notwithstanding for a long time there appeared no life at all in him , whilst the company were discoursing severally of the accident and incounter, and applying some remedies to stop the bleeding of *Narcissus* wounded arm, the *Panther* of a sudden , not onely again revived , but flew violently upon one of the dogs lying neer him, and bit him so , that the blood followed which in a manner startled the whole company thinking him to be dead: wherefore again they set upon him, though with a jesting violence , until at last they made him sure from doing any more hurt to them or any others.

However this unexpected wound, which *Narcissus* had received in his arm, from the sharp clawes of

Panther, was not esteemed by himself either dangerous or worth much consideration, yet by way of conveniency if not not necessity, both he and the Princess *Cloria* were forced for some time longer, to put off their journey to the Island of *Cyprus*, which seemed much to comply with the contrived design of *Philos*, for their surprisal at Sea by the *Lydian* fleet, since for some dayes *Narcissus* not only kept his chamber but his bed, which however afforded him many visits, from all the youthfull Nobility of the Court, as I may say in some sort seemingly glad of the accident, whereby he might by reason of that necessity, be still obliged to remain in their company. This cure of his, protracted the time so long that the season of the year drew on, for the ceremonious cutting of the banks of the River of *Nilus*, whereby the whole Country of *Egypt* might be fludded, to augment its fertility; or rather to take away the natural barrenness of the soil, which would be occasioned by such omission: To this work of industry belonged certain triumphes, that had been time out of mind instituted, by the ancient Kings that governed the people, which custom, as the inhabitants (by a certain kind of superstition in their dispositions) every yeare most religiously observed; as believing in some sort their wealth would increase with their devotion; so *Orsames* himself, whereby the better, to retain the affections of his new conquered Subjects of that Nation, was perswaded not only to be present at those sports in person, but *Philos* thinking it also an opportune occasion to demonstrate his Uncles greatness, resolved to entertain that night, the whole company of Princes at *Memphis*, in a most magnificent manner, though his chief intentions were to see whether he could by that means, the sooner disjoyn the af-

affections of *Cloria*, to whose honour he seemed to consecrate his feast, whereby more particularly to bestow the Loves both of her self and *Narcissus*, upon him and *Artemesia*, by reason of a certain kind of lustre, domineering as might be thought more in their Family, than any others visible in *Asia*, in regard of *Philostros* intimacy and power with *Orsames*: these were his fantastical thoughts, grounded onely upon opinion and his own ambition, when as the virtuous Loves between *Cloria* and *Narcissus*, were vestablished upon Diamond rocks, not to be shaken by any blasts of greatness or fortune.

When the day came for this mighty ceremony (the people being assembled upon the banks of the River) the whole afternoon was spent, in the taking and destroying of Crocodiles, which with certain baited hooks of *Iron*, where by their huge bodies drawn out of the water, to the no small amazement of those strangers, that had never seen the like before: The young men also of the Town in new Barges made for that purpose, offered many delightful sports, in a kind of a rural Triumph before the Castle; where also was the great Cestern, which hath been formerly mentioned in taking the Fort, marking out to the Inhabitants the rise and fall of the River, by which conjecture the fertility and scarcity of the years appear: This Cestern they not onely adorned with with many Garlands and preparations for fire-works, but *Roxana's* dwarf, that had been so great an actor in the surprisal of the Castle, was upon an open Teatre presented to the view of the people, casting out to their expectations *Orsames* bounty: all which notwithstanding were designed, for no other than preparatives for the nights Ceremonies.

At what time *Philos*, according to the circumstance of his invitation, conducted the Princess *Gloria* to his Lodgings, in full opposition to the other Castle, with the rest of the Noble Company then remaining at *Memphis*; and however *Narcissus* felt some incommodation, in regard of the wound he had so lately received, without any great importunity was perswaded by *Philos* to be of the same society; it being in some sort also intended for his entertainment, that he might not onely be an eye-witness of the glory of *Philostros* Family, but (as the sequel will testifie) have a view of his intended Mistress *Artemesia* *Philos* Sister, having never during his abode at *Memphis* beheld her person, though for what reason, was not known by any.

The room that was designed for the Feast was perfectly Oval, crowned un the top with a brave *Cupelo*, according to the antick *Egyptian* manner, adorned almost all over with antient *Hieroglyphicks* in *Mosaick* work: the Galleries of each side for the commodity of Musick, were wrought into several intricate knots of gilded brass, intermixt with other colours, for the more beauty of the eye: the table it self also answered exactly to the oval proportion of of the Room, leaving a convenient space from the the Wall, for the commodity of necessary attendants: it was in the middle hollowed in a large measure, to take off a part of its bredth, the company onely appointed to sit, without any oppotision to one another: however in that seeming vacancy of the board, was erected from the ground a most state-Fountain (that at least reached half way to the upper part of the seiling) where appeared, the Goddess *Diana* and her Nymphs bathing themselves, cut out in most excellent white Marble, which being also intermingled

mingled with certain artificial Trees, according to the nature of the Countrey, it afforded a most delectable prospect to the beholders; and the rather, for that the Fountain being built, in a seeming cristall lake of clear running water, brought thither by the ancient King of *Egypt*, with infinite charge and admirable skill, not onely proved exceedingly, to be a commodity to the Feast, but a refreshment to the company; especially for that from their seeming naked Breasts, there continually run, into several small vessels appointed for that purpose, all sorts of excellent Wine, both Greek and Aprican, where dainty boyes stood ready to dispose of it to the strangers, when any pleased to call for it, of each sort: the company at the first entrance into the Room, seemed to be a little amazed at such a magnificent beauty, wch the knew not of to be before in *Memphis*; though the building had not onely long time ago, been erected by the greatest Monarchs of those parts: but the place it self had for many years past, been reserved superstitiously by the Inhabitants, for no other use, but for the celebration of the day and night, when the banks of *Nilus* were to be opened, to let in the water over the Countrey. Thus they continued casting their eyes about at several varieties (the Musick in the interim, meeting with the concavity of the Fabrick, to the best advantage to the ear) whilst of a sudden, there flew open a two-leaved door, that directed its prospect, through a large and long Gallery into another Room, at the upper end of which appeared a Lady sitting on a Throne, however at such a distance that her countenance could not be perfectly distinguished: but being soon conducted by *Philos* towards the place, she was quickly discovered by his information, to be his sister the most fair *Artemesia*; at leastwise

leastwise so esteemed in her own opinion : and truly was so in effect, if her mind had in every kind been answerable to her body , since any way wanting the inward beauty, some defect of necessity must be in whole ; and so consequently not most fair : Upon their approach, they found her incompassed by many Negro slaves, who with huge Fanns in their hands, appeared to give her breath and refreshment : but why onely so accompanied, could not well be imagined, unlesse it were by the blacknesse of her attendants, the better to set forth her own beauty in the apprehension of the spectators : when they came at something a neerer distance (for before she would not seem to rise) in a certain kind of careless posture, she descended from her Throne ; whilst the lovely Princesse *Cloria*, with another kind of quickness in her cariage, made up between Courtesie and good Nature, (wherein Pride had not the least interest) addrest her self to give her an affable and fitting salutation, proceeding not onely from the gentleness of her disposition , but the ingratitude in her thoughts , in that her Brothers entertainment , was wholly upon the matter (as was pretended) intended for her welcome and reception. Nevertheless *Artemesia* met her with such a Countenance, as if she yet made some question, which of both was to be esteemed the person of most dignity ; however at last *Artemesia* gave *Cloria* the better hand, though with that demeanour, that did more divulge her insolency, than shew her judgement to all the assembly : but self-opinion , when onely governed by an imperious soul, accompanied vvith passion and prosperity, can have no other cure, but either by destruction in effect, or contrary fortunes in possession: but all this, as it should seem, vv as to gain a heart from poor *Narcissus*,

cissus, that was already captivated by a stronger influence; who, though he had understood her meaning, he could not have been brought from sacrificing to virtue and goodnesse, to have committed idolatry before a painted image; wherein was contained, as might be thought, nothing but Pride and vanity. To be short, these ridiculous passages in a ceremonious March, conducted them to take their places. The Feast it self did not exceed more in sumptuous magnificence, than in exquisite curiosity: for the Fruits seemed rather all growing upon natural Trees, than conveyed to their taste by industry; whilst Birds of all sorts in the interim flew about the Room, warbling forth such variety of notes, to entertain the company, as if they had been taught their skill by excellent Masters. And the more admirable it was, in regard the clarity of the place, by reason of an artificial splendour newly created, proceeding from divers places in the room, rendred their several colours to the view, more beautiful than they were by Nature ordained. It were a kind of gross simplicity to talk of abundance, when as the power of *Syria*, joyned with the fertility of *Egypt*, conjoyned with a full, if not (as I may say) an omnipotent ability, to perswade Love, and shew greatness.

But however this entertainment seemed to be the provision of many ages, and the Feast intended for some years continuance, yet that nights ceremony (though customary in it self, yet at the present, ordained for the sight of the greatest esteemed Monarch in *Asia*) could not wait upon any other intention, or conveniency; wherefore, the company being advertized that *Orsames* with his Favourite in the other Castle, was already seated, expecting the shew, in something

something a confused manner rise from the Table, leaving all other services behind to be recommended onely to fancy and imagination; since every one hasted to those windowes upon the River, that were most convenient for their purposes: for that already the fire flying in the Ayr, and the Trumpets sounding upon the Land, appeared to sense, as if the Heavens had changed their stations: for as the night seemed to be day, by a contrary, though more illustrious reflection, so mortals might be thought to have assumed to themselves the property of Gods, in regard of the Resplendent Glory of the King, who sat upon the top of a great Castle, encompassed about with such multitudes of lights, and that variety of attendants, that he seemed not onely to be the Conquerour of the Earth, by a just right, but even to claim an appearing and divine interest, of something miraculous during his time here below. In fine, nothing could be seen more splendent for the time; which drew all the Eyes of the People upon his Glory with such an amazed joy, that scarce could they with hearts and cries, abstain from open Idolatry: but notwithstanding all these inticements of sense, *Artemesia* (however more bewitched in her passions than any other) could not be perswaded, neither by her Brother, or the rest of the company, to be at all a Spectator of those sports: but whether out of a vain imagination, that she seemed in her thoughts to condemn every popular spectacle, as being a great deal below her aymes and design? or whether she could not brook the competition of *Cloria's* Beauty and Dignity? or indeed was truly Melancholy as *Philos* had informed the Ambassador, it is not to any great purpose to determine: onely it was visible that in a kind of a disdainful

dainful posture, she without any manner of salutation to the company, retired suddenly into her chamber.

Notwithstanding all these passages, *Philos* whose heart and thoughts, were already too violently set upon his own particular concerns, (however he found more cause of despair every day than other, of parting the young Lovers affection, although he might by the success of his designs sever their persons, and had made his Sisters preposterous passions, in part, as a stale, the better to compass his own ends) though he would have been most willing also, to have rendred her intirely satisfied, in regard the contrary (as he thought) something conduced to the dishonour of the family, began a little to consider what he should do at the present: wherefore because he would leave no way unattempted, that might pretend to probility, and finding the Princess *Cloria*, at a window alone, earnestly beholding the fire-works and other pastimes, answerable to the season, which seemed something convenient for his purpose, he began a discourse to her in this nature, as he had formerly done a hunting to *Narcissus*, although the noyse of the people below upon the banks of the River, seemed not very well to comply with his intention.

Madam, said he, you may here behold in part, the infinite glory and happineffe of the King your great Uncle in his own proper sphear, the rich City of *Damascus*: but presently finding she could not perfectly understand what he said, by reason of the cries and shouts of the multitude, though he perceived an inclination in his courteous disposition, to hearken to the matter of his discourse, as well as the sound of his word, drew her by little and little from
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the Window, untill they were both retired to such a distance, that they had free liberty, to understand what each other would deliver, which made him being again in this manner.

Truly said he, since these magnificences now beheld, are no better than meer shadows, to what brightneses *Orsames* enjoys in his own Country, (of which you have already a large share by birth, being sprung from that flourishing Tree, of that Illustrious and Royal house of *Syria*, and ought to have more in my opinion by possession, in regard of those rare perfections, which both Art and Nature have so liberally bestowed upon your self, to the wound of your sex) I cannot be but something amazed, if not scandalized how your thoughts, can carry you into any other region, (especially having such conveniences) before you had tasted of those excellencies in *Syria*, that may not again be so well understood and apprehended, as by such curious fancies as yours, that are able even to add a new life both to them, and to every thing else you see and hear: I must tell you most admirable Princess, that the Nobility of *Syria* in their own proper Elements, appear rather like so many sovereign Lords themselves, crowned with honour and respect, than Subjects to any Mortal King whatsoever, by reason of their commands & dependances, not any way to be equalled, or made less by what power soever, (continuing in *Orsames* favour) but as their own retirements, sometimes give them appetites for privat recreations, wherby they become familiar & solitary; Alas dear Madam, said he, did you but behold the glorious Palaces of *Damascus*, with other rich buildings of lesser note (onely appointed to be the inhabitations of Merchants) you would think this great esteemed City (so much extold by the boasting *Egyptians*) to be
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but an unfurnished Village, in regard of its magnificence & splendor; & for the Island of *Cyprus*, whither you are now going (which I must confess I admire, since the Queen your Mother by your attraction, would suddenly be enduced to visit *Syria*) ought to be esteemed in your view and apprehension, a poor and contemptible part of the world, only ordained to breed up a few petty persons, of no honour and birth, as common drudges through the world, whereby to maintain the better Trade and Commerce, for the benefit of our people; which country notwithstanding without *Syrias* immediate assistance, can neither defend itself in time of War, or preserve it self in time of Peace: To this greatness and prosperity of the *Syrian* State, as I will not say my Uncle *Philoftr*s, gives our flourishing fields greeness, or causeth the earth in due season to produce bountifully to the inhabitants, yet I may boldly affirm, that his faithfull policy, hath rendred *Orsames* great and mighty, and so consequently his Subjects happy & fortunate, other people being over-run by their enemies, whilst we make war into al Countries to our advantage, though but in part demonstrated by this City, not only as you see made subject by strong hand to our power, but in the inhabitants, being perswaded upon the matter in a moment, willingly to obey our Laws and Jurisdiction, as the great acclamations of joy, now offered to *Orsames* prosperity, in the present Feast of cutting the Banks of the River doth witness: by *Syria*, I say, you shall be honoured as a Goddess, and in *Cyprus* you cannot be maintained as a Princess; in the one your worth will be lost for want of knowledge, when as the other shall give you more valued, in regard there are Beauties also worthy of esteem: the rich Palace of *Orsames* can afford you a habitation fit
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for you Dignity, when all *Cyprus* shall scarce grant you convenient entertainment: with these words, taking her fair hand as the last period of his discourse, he bestowed as many *Syrian* complements upon the subject, as would have created it an Idol, if *Gloria* had been any way indulgently superstitious in her own concernment.

But as the sweet Princess took these glorious expressions of *Philos* (not being any whit suspicious of his inward intentions) as meer gallant courtships, whereby to furnish out the rest of his entertainments though she could not, but have reason as she thought to smile at his vanity) so of the other side, hearing, as she imagined, rather blasphemies than disgraceful speeches uttered, not onely against that Countrey, she had already partly resolved to make her own, but as it were in desparagement of the honour of that Noble family, from whence her dear *Narcissus* was extracted, which she knew yielded to none in *Asia*, either for personal worth or antiquity in descent, could scarce forbear the returning him a most sharp reply: however again considering, the pretensions of his magnificent entertainment, to be as it were wholly consecrated for her satisfaction, she let his words passe at the present, either as high flown expressions, proceeding from his passionate youth, whereby himself might become the better esteemed, or from some customary discourse or volubility of tongue, incident to the nature of his Countrey-men. yet would not abstain from telling him though in a kind of a jeering way, that as her own small experience, in the glory and bounty of many places in the world, bestowed upon them by the Gods favour, or natures partiality, was not a knowing confidence sufficient, to judge of their valours (which made her really in

in her own thoughts, satisfactory contented, with what she hath already seen in some States, and was in part born unto in her Fathers Kingdom so should she ever hold it, but a fitting obligation belonging to her duty, first by her personal presence in the Island of *Cyprus*, to enquire after her Mothers pleasure, and then to be absolutely directed by her will, either to wait upon her into *Syria*, or to any other Region where she would command; which also was delivered, with such a kind of vermillion blush, as very well demonstrated, that rather anger and bashfulness, exacted from that beautiful Tincture: *Philos* scarce expected from her reply such an Answer: yet putting on in his countenance, a certain confident smile, made up between displeasure, and the opinion he might have of the Princesses want of experience and breeding, to deal with him in discourse, continuing still notwithstanding his intention to mix some flattery with his words, he quickly made her this return: O Madam, said he, do not so injuriously tax your own judgement, but rather lay it upon the obstinacy of your own Will, which is a property I must confesse incident in a most high measure, to all those of your Sexes; that is not to do a thing, because you wil not do it, and not for that reason, and consideration tells you, it may be the best. Truly Sir, answered the Princess, as I thank the Gods, I find not in my own Nature, such an obstinacy as you speak of, so cannot I yet be diverted from these maxims, that I have learned in my youth: which are, that obedience to my Parents, and a contentedness in disposition, ought to be esteemed neither Folly or impiety, but of contrary, Wisdom and goodness: I confesse the same, replied *Philos*: but when the one may be conserved, and the other encreased, certainly

ly we ought alwayes to apply our endeavours, to the greater commodity and benefit: as for example, if you now go along in the company of your great Uncle *Orsames* to *Damascus*, you shall not onely with a world of honour and respect gain those experiences, of beholding the excellent rarities of the earth; but the Queen of *Lydia* your Noble Mother, no doubt will be sent for with all expedition, both to accompany your fortunes & content. *Cloria* having formally heard by discourses from the Queen and others, that *Philostros*, *Philos* Uncle, was not onely a main obstracter of her Fathers designs, but was also absolutely against her Mothers coming into *Syria*, could not forbear, but plainly to tell him her thoughts in that particular, with some tears in her eyes, as if her apprehensions anew, began to work towards the affairs of *Euarchus* her Father in *Lydia*: in somuch as he might easily perceive, there rested in her mind (notwithstanding other diversions) certain discontented motion, concerning his Uncles usage of the Queen in her distresses, not having so much (as she was informed) ever invited her into *Syria*, notwithstanding all her misfortunes and oppressions of her own Country; but rather was a means to divert *Orsames* her Brother, from either giving her countenance or reception; though grounded principally (as it was conceived) upon his spleen, that *Anaxia* the old Queen of *Syria*, had been so nobly entertained in *Lydia*, having been banished from her Sons Court, onely by his power and greatness: what the sequel of these discourses would have produced, cannot well be imagined, for that diverse of the company, being already sufficiently tyred with beholding the fire-works, were retired into that part of the room, where *Cloria* and *Philos* were discoursing, which for that time not onely

ly ended the dispute, but took off all occasion to begin anew; neither indeed was there any commodity at all for it, since the whole assembly one with another, fell into diversity of pleasant communications, which in truth was a great deal more proper for the season than those of another nature, that had happened from *Cloria* onely by accident; though of the other side, they might be occasioned by reason of *Philos* passions and under-hand designs: however the company continued, confusedly mixt both in persons & language, until they were invited into another room, to taste the delicacies of a Banquet, provided for their nights refreshment, that appeared not more curious than magnificent, as it were designed to close up their expectations, with the reality of what, was again impossible to be parallel'd by any other Nation: it might be esteemed an impertinent vanity, to dwell here again upon descriptions, since not onely by what hath been already said, the rest in part may be imagined; but the time of the night also calling the company to their rest, may very well give a full period to *Philos* sumptuous entertainment, though in them according to his expectation he found not his wishes satisfied, neither in his own violent affections to *Cloria*, nor his sisters preposterous passions concerning *Narcissus*: which was the occasion, that being retired into his private chamber, instead of sleep, he became incumbred with diversity of troublesome thoughts.

Philos as I say, being withdrawn into his own solitary lodgings (in imitation of the rest of the company to the outward view, though not to the same intention, according to his inward disturbances) began more seriously to reflect upon his purposes, considering not onely the progress he had made in them, but the issues consequently were probably to follow; To

this effect in the first place he found, it was impossible to remove settled affections between the young lovers *Cloria* and *Narcissus*, as well by their manner of discourses he had made to them both, in the commendation of the *Syrian* excellencies, as by divers other reasons and circumstances, that he had observed in either, which made him believe, as the combinations he had made with the Ambassador, would prove to little effect to his benefit, so would they be of most desperate concernments to those sweet and innocent creatures: next he laid before his remembrance, not onely the gallant bravery of *Narcissus* person, in many attempts he had made at the siege upon the *Egyptians*, having withall in a manner saved the life of his Uncle *Philostros* in the fight, as another time his own from the fury of the *Lyon*, but also more particularly he reflected upō the courteous disposition of the Princess *Cloria*, notwithstanding her dignity & quality, accompanied with her excellent beauty & rare perfections, not to be equalled again in all *Asia*: Lastly, he considered with some horror, what a world of inconvenience his family had brought, upon *Euarchus* and his Kingdom of *Lydia*, not only at the first, by stirring up of the ungrateful *Myssians*, to contend with him, but also in the discountenancing of *Hiacinthia* the Queen, in her solicitations with *Orsames* her Brother to her husbands interest, however there seemed to appear no other reason for these latter evils, but that *Anaxia* the old Queen of *Syria* (being in disfavour with *Philostros*) had been received by the Court of *Lydia*, with some more than ordinary affection and ceremony. These considerations after a long debate privately in his own bosom, made him at last utter this language:

O Heavens said he, with what a Torrent of impious
madnesse,

madness, are mortals carried on in their courses, when they steer their actions only by ambition, and fill the sailes of their intentions, with nothing but violence and Pride? O wise Moderation that should temper the heat of all our passions, & make us rather good than politick, to what Region art thou flown, to seek Virtue and Quiet? what if our endeavours, could attain every day to new Conquests, until the World should become ours by the sword, accompanied with Blood and Slaughters, what were the purchase worth, still living in distempers and vexation? doth more Tiles any thing else, but serve to create new appetites, which daily encrease without satisfactions? what serve command, and greatness but to inflame desires, that torment day and night our over indulgent thoughts, with restless labours of such impatency, as absolutely destroy those felicities, that onely Nature and Reason should delight in? do we eat or sleep better, because we are great and mighty? or can all the passionate acquisitions of the earth, in honour and dignity, render us healthful if we be diseased, or make us fall back one year from our age, either to grant us more vigor or longer being? will not the fast comming on of that allotted time by the divine powers, mingled with gray haire and wrinkles, soon put a period to all vapours of delight, which we rather imagine than possess, though we should live to the uttermost date of all mortality? of the contrary, the Gods onely know, by what accident we may be cut off, before that expectation can be performed, to an eternal forgetfulness perhaps, both of us and our actions: O sacred truth, if not Religion, said he, let me here invoke your productions, to accompany hence forward all my intentions, with that power and assistance,

may make me at leastwise to act temperately in what I go about: with these thoughts though not settled determinations, within a while he fell a sleep, and so continued, untill the cheerful Morning brought unto his chamber window the Sun, being the bright governour of the day, that soon dispersed from his imagination, all those melancholy vapours of the night, that had set before his more recollected fancy, the lively representation of his own condition; insomuch as he not onely again flew from his pious thoughts, but was content to perswade at last his understanding, that as the business in it self was not of any wicked Nature, in regard of the interest of Crowns and Kingdoms (that seemed to claim privileges and maxims, above all Mortality and Religion) so was it impossible for him, (since the Ambassador of *Lydia* was himself departed from *Memphis*) to frame any probable way for prevention, without indangering his Uncles honour; upon which, as he pretended, depended the whole welfare and absolute prosperity of *Syria*: These flatteries I may say, made him resolve to let the young Lovers to run their own hazard, rather than endanger such an incoveniency to fall upon his family: so apt are men in worldly honours and happiness, to entertain all unjust chimeras, that trickle up those indulgent apprehensions, that onely correspond with sense and appetites: Thus again was he confirmed in his untoward faith, made up only by his own desires, without any Counsel at all of virtue: so that with the same garbe & greatness as he was accustomed, not onely went out of his own chamber, attended by multitudes of flattering Sutors, but according to the dissembling custom of that policy, which properly belongs to the actions of States-men, he saluted every persō he met, with several voluble complemēt, that

that were of force sufficient to have made them believe they had absolutely his heart in all their petitions, if experience had not taught them oftentimes the validity of favourites words: however they were to comply in countenances, as he did in language: which continued all things in a seeming calm in the Court of *Orsames*, until the two young lovers *Cloria* and *Narcissus*, could be no longer perswaded to stay, by the alluring enticements, magnificences, and pleasure of the same: wherefore, as a couple of gallant ships were provided for their transportation, (since for the honour of *Syria* it was not held convenient, one vessel should contain both their persons, though the lovers themselves were not well pleased with the ceremony) so *Orsames* himself, would needs accompany them from *Memphis* to the Sea-side: In the way they were met by divers petty Triumphs, from those Towns as they past down the River of *Nilus*; which however protracted the time, longer than *Cloria* and *Narcissus* desired; not only in regard of their own passionate desires to be in the Island of *Cyprus*, where they might have the opportunity, to prosecute the period of their wishes, according to their dictates of love and engagements; but for that they both knew also their affectionate Parents, waited for their arrival with a most violent zeal, having been a long time before hand, by themselves advertized of their coming.

So that after something a long and tedious journey, (because they so esteemed it) they arrived at the last Haven in *Egypt*; where the fair and gallant prospect upon the Sea, gave their eyes no bounds, but what the main Ocean was content to afford them; which proved delightful enough, in regard they had been so long a time shut up between other varieties.

As this gave some period to their wishes, of imbarcking suddenly for the Island of *Cyprus*; so the chief Nobility of the Court appeared discontented at the resolution: for if the men honoured, and took a singular contentment in *Narcissus* Noble virtues, his gallant presence being accompanied with youth and valour, so had the Ladies of *Memphis* no small delight and satisfaction, in *Clorias* affable conversation; who had accompanied her in her journey; since she had not so much pride in her disposition, as to be either humorous or neglectful, although she never wanted a sufficient Majesty in her carriage, to make her self revered of all, according to the dignity of her person: to say the plain truth, she had a familiarity that perswaded love from the meanest, however she never failed to procure respect from the highest. And however, many crosses had rendred her thoughts inwardly something Musing, nevertheless the greatness of her discretion, alwayes so tempered the prejudicial properties of it, that those inclinations of melancholy, were never visible, but to her Governess *Roxana*, in her own privat Cabinet, when they entred seriously into consideration of their fortunes, which a certain kind of necessity sometimes seemed to exact from them both: if at all she appeared a little amazed at her frequent disasters, it was rather a mark of her extreme innocency, than any courage she wanted to sustain her losses; as it were in a manner not believing, that it was possible for people to be so wicked, and the Gods still to continue entirely patient. These are the attributes, (if not much more) that all indifferent tongues and pens must give her. And the *Syrians* in the general, were loath to send away out of their own possession, such perfections into another Countrey, which

which they esteemed far less worthy than their own; or rather, that she accompanied with those excellencies, should be lost from their society and expectation; which I must confess, made her fair person aptly to be likened to a rich enameled case, all set over with Diamonds, and other precious stones; that notwithstanding within, contained a picture that was not to be valued by any estimation: only some sympathy remained by a divine determination between the two lovers; for as she was pleased by her very election, to parallel with her self *Narcissus*, so he could love no other ever, but excellent *Cloria*.

In this posture, I say, when they came to the Seaside, (in the interim the King leading *Cloria* by the hand) the sweet Princess, with a few beautiful tears in her fair eyes (being, as it were, loath to depart, though she desired nothing more than to be gone) fell down presently upon her knees, with a certain gentle intermixture of grief, made up between sorrow and bashfulness: which however it for some space hindered her expressions, yet at last she took her leave of her great Uncle, in these words; May all the Gods send you Sir, said she, both victory in Warre and prosperity in peace, until the very world grow old with your fame: but the King quickly stopt her imprecations, by two or three loving kisses, imprinted upon her fair lips; which kept in the other part of her discourse. Whilst *Narcissus* in another place, with a smiling countenance (as it were besieged by multitudes of embracements) dispatched his complements as fast as he could, since he imagined, they gave his thoughts scarce any thing but trouble and impediment, in that already all his wishes and desires were directed to another region,

on, which seemed more violently to carry his ambition, than the Southern winds that attended at present to drive them out of the haven : only he appeared yet something unsatisfied, when he remembered that his love was to be transported in one ship, and he in another, by the rigid rules of honour belonging to the *Syrian Nation*. When they had been conveyed (after all their complements) by many of the Nobility, into the gallant vessels, that lay some distance from the shore, the Trumpets of either side sounded their departure, as if they intended to summon the Gods to bestow a blessing upon the voyage : when presently the sails being displayed, and the pendants and colours let fly to the best advantage, they lanced into the deep, where *Neptune* again seemed most willing to take their protection, since scarce a wave moved other than gently, to give them any manner of disturbance.

Thus in a kind of a certain supposed tranquility (by reason of the calm) they sailed for at least the twelve hours, as it were playing with the winds, and contemplating the waters; and the more pleasant and satisfactory it was, in regard of the sea-mens sometimes casting out their nets, to catch fish, for the delight of the Princess, and the rest of her attendants.

Whilst the company employed their thoughts with these entertainments, the Mariners began to fear a change of the weather; as well for that many Dolphins appeared oftentimes to shew themselves above the waves (an indubitable sign esteemed of a storm) as also for that the wind of a sudden had altered its station a great deal more Eastward, which as they perceived, diverted their course from the Island of *Cyprus*, and carried them directly towards *Crete* : the other ship in the interim, where *Narcissus* was seemed

seemed to be at some distance having got the start of them, by reason of those sports the Marriners had to the Princess.

Neither were their expectations long deceived, for presently they might observe, not only certain black clouds to unite together suddenly in the East, but the winds began already to blusters with something an open mouth. As this warned the Prince *Cloria* to retire into her own Cabiner, so the Marriners busily imployed themselves, to put their ship in a posture against all accidents; being the more precipitate in their intention, for that it wanted not much above an hours to night.

The storm increasing, *Cloria* within a short time, not being able longer to brook the tossing and rolling of the seas cast her self down upon her bed, to take off, as she imagined, the distempers and incommodities of her indisposition; in which posture notwithstanding, her fancy proved as well disturbed as her body, since both the cracks of thunder, with the uncouth whistling of the windes in the night season, became a great deale more unpleasant to her apprehension. However she was tyed those observances, untill it should please the Gods, either to calme the seas, or put them in more security; But it should seem neither her prayers, nor her companies wishes, were able at all to prevail with the divine powers, so far as to make them in opinion confident of their own safeties. Until at last it was necessary, not only to take down all the chief Tacklings belonging to the ship, but also the main Mast it self: desiring they might rather, commit their fortunes and preservation to the mercy of the seas, than any more rely upon the windes curtesie and gentleness, since they could not cast in their Anchors to any effect, by

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reason the water was so deep, and their Cables (as they knew) not strong enough, to sustain the force of the tempest; which seemed rather to increase in violence, then to give them hopes of abatement.

In this danger and perplexity they continued many hours, the gallant vessel all the while being tost from one pillow to another, as if the waves intended to shew to the heavens by their lofty motion, how much they disdained and scorned any controule; whilst the ship notwithstanding with a brave kind of fortitude, seemed still to contend against the rudeness of their malice; in so much as (however being being rather desperately wounded, than absolutely overcome) she made her way through the seas with incredible celerity, in regard of the strength and highness of the wind, though she wanted both her Sailes and Masts: but the Pilots not being able to inform themselves, which way she steered her course by reason thick mist, had overclouded the superficies of the water, were put again into new doubts, lest they might fall upon some rocks to their ruine, though there was no remedy; for as all was to be left to the hazzard of the seas, so their trust in supernatural mercies, was to be their chief comfort notwithstanding this more than desperate danger, poor *Clorinda* seemed in her inward thoughts, to be more solicitous for *Narcissus* safety, than for her own preservation; as it were invoking privately the pure heavens to that purpose whilst the rest of the company sent out their prayers also to the Gods in their own behalfs.

It was about noon the next day before the windes abated, (when the Marriners informed the Master, they spied some land at a good distance, the skie having

ving suddenly cleared much of its darkness; And not long after they might perceive many shallops upon the seas belonging to poor fishermen casting their Nets into the water.

As this gave them all sufficient cause of joy and encouragement, so did they presently let out the long boat, that they had drawn into the ship during the storm, with intention to enquire of those people, not only neer what coast they remained, but how they might by their directions, provide in the best manner they could, for their conveniency of landing, whereby to repair the vessel.

It was not half an houres time before the boat again returned with this information, that as the land they were neer was part of the Island of *Crete*, so not above halfe a daies sail from that place, was the fair haven town of *Pergame*, whose governour at present, was a great Noble man of the Countrey named *Dedalus*, that notwithstanding the Island was divided into many factions, by reasons of the differences between *Euarchus* King of *Lydia* and his Senate, had kept that City wholly for the Kings interest: this news you may be sure, had put the Princess *Cloria* in such an extasie of joy, as would have created an entire felicity in her thoughts, if she had not in the interim, called again to her remembrance, her separation from *Narcissus*: but the company, rather flattering her opinion, then assuring their own thoughts, that undoubtedly he was past all hazard, being in so good a ship, she was quickly perswaded to go to *Pergame*, resolving there to remain, not only whilst she heard some newes of *Narcissus*; but during a necessary coveniency might also be had, for the repairing of her own ship, being as they told her

her absolutely incapable (before she was mended) to make any other voyage whatsoever: she condescending to this counsel and advice some of the fishermen were quickly hired with store of money, to be their guides and conductors to *Pergame*: so that presently tying a strong Cable to the great vessel, and setting many Rowers in one of the biggest shallows belonging to the Fishermen, they haled her along the seas towards the Haven, as it were in a kind of pleasant Triumph; which they might the more commodiously do, for that now the wind being in a manner wholly allayed, they seemed to enjoy upon the water a sufficient calm for their purpose.

But notwithstanding this commodity, it was almost the whole day, before they could draw their ship, near a point of land that bordered upon the haven; so that *Cloria* was forced for one night to take up her lodging in a poor cottage: however this gave her thoughts more satisfaction than the stately vessel belonging to the Kingdom of *Syria*, had her body in the storm. When the day came, as it was determined, to continue their resolutions for the City of *Pergame*, so was it held convenient before the Prince's approach, to give notice to the Governour, of her accidental arrival, within the dominion of his jurisdiction. This was quickly put in execution by sending a messenger; before; whilst themselves within two hours space, were set a shore upon promontory not many furlongs from the Town. The sweet Prince's walked upon a green walk, pleasantly set with Trees, when *Dedalus* the governour of *Pergame*, accompanied by many Gentlemen of the Countrey, and attended by one Troop of horse presented himself before her;

her; not only to give her reception into his territories, but to undertake in the King her fathers behalf (he being, as he said, his Deputy) all the entertainment that poor kingdom, being (lately much beaten with war) could afford. You may be sure *Cloria* was not backward to give him thanks, assuring him of her kind acknowledgement of his endeavours. This conducted her to her company quickly (for the time was not proper for much complements) to take possession of a brave though ancient Castle, seated upon a little rising at the farther end of the Town, whilst the inhabitants in the interim, being placed in order of each side the streets, gave the Princess a joyful welcom into that City, which her father (as they said) had never visited: so being at last brought into her chamber, with other ceremonies, it was not long before she went to bed, as well to rest her mind, as her body; however she first desired the Governor, to send out some small ship of his own, then lying ready furnished in the Haven, to hearken out some tydings, concerning the other vessel of *Syria*.

But however thus (by the goodness of the Gods the sweet Princess had in a manner miraculously escaped the danger of the seas, that seemed in some sort even ambitious of her ruine, coveting perhaps to have entombed so dainty a body within their uncouth intrals; yet could she not so soon shake off the malevolent effects of those distempers, that had discomposed her during the tempest; which however they put her not in any danger of life, yet they did not only keep her from being visited by any whatsoever, but for the most part continued her in her privatest chamber for a long time, where only *Roxana* and some few servants more attended upon her person.

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This gave the opportunity one day to *Roxana* (her Lady being asleep) to enquire of *Dedalus*, concerning the affaires of the Island; since, as she said, there could not chuse but be many things worth the knowing, in regard of *Euarchus* contention with the Senate, belonging to the jurisdiction thereof.

Truly Madam, said he, as the passages have been lately many and strange, in this most unhappy Island of *Crete*, so to give you the berter scantling of the business that from time to time have hapned, I must in some sort begin with the original, when the Countrey first became under the *Lydian* power and jurisdiction. And to this purpose therefore you must know, that after the generation of the Gods had totally left *Crete*, to a certain kind of wild barbarism, not only in the manners of the people, but in the rudeness of the soyl, for want of being industriously manured, some of the ancient Kings of *Lydia* conceiving, that the Island lay convenient for the jurisdiction of their own Crown, both by reason of the natural fertility of the ground, as in regard of the safety of the Harbours, began to create some ambition in their thoughts to be Lords of it; yet knowing, they could have no Title to the Countrey in their own right, but what the lawes of the sword might violently (if not injuriously) afford them, made earnest solicitation, to the great *Arch-Flamin* of *Delphos*, that in respect of the degenerating of the people, from all religious maxims, with the practice of other inhumane customs, (pretended to fall upon it for want of order and government) he would be pleased, under the sacred banner of his holy protection and power, to grant them the principality and jurisdiction of the Island; upon the condition neverthelesse, that they should still be ob-

obliged, to observe those rights in their sacrifices to the Gods, as were only used in the Temple of *Delphos*: with these Titles and pretences, many of those Princes, taking alwaies advantage of the inhabitants factions and disagreement amongst themselves, sent several Armies, either by force or policy, or both, to conquer the Country: which, to be short, within some few yeers was totally effected, notwithstanding now and then many contradictions, and disturbances hapned, proceeding rather from the inconstant natures of the people, than that they had any great cause, to complain of their subjection to the *Lydian* Lawes and government. This gives me occasion a little to digress from the matter of the story, with some explanation of the disposition of the antient Natives; which in part perhaps hath caused so many changes, and revolutions in our Island. Tis true, they have bodies capable of such labour and activity, as might enrich the Countrey, if their mindes were answerable to their composure and making; but they are so extremely lazy and proud by nature, that as they had rather beg or steal, than work, or take pains; so doth the loyl wholly upon the matter lie unmanured; rather chusing in forein parts any servile office whatsoever, than they will make the best of their own livings and estates, at home in their own Countrey: whilst their wives and families also in the interim, are content to seek out new and strange fortunes, with whole troops of attendants; not omitting nevertheless the least part of those ceremonies, that belong to persons of the greatest quality, although every night they lye in barnes, and in the day feed scarce upon any thing, that can afford nourishment to their

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appetites. The women may be said to be rather chaste by nature, than that they can give any reason in their own thoughts, why they are honest at all; for that commonly they sleep altogether, without any distaste in the general, or the least shew of jealousy in the particular; a laudable property, incident to most barbarous Nations, however perhaps meerly proceeding, from want of luxurious enticements, that use to enflame lusts in dispositions. The men are valiant enough in the wars of other countries; but whether by constraint or nature I will not say, since at home it is most apparent, they even want courages to defend their wives and children, rather trusting to their own craft and subtilty in circumventing their enemies, than any way desiring with their swords in their hands to oppose; perhaps thinking it a folly, where they any way can get advantage to complement about honour; for no people in the world hate with a more unrelenting spight, or revenge by a more hidden cruelty. When they go to the wars, whole Troops and families follow, to accompany their friends, out of kindeness; though their intentions for the most are thereby, to pillage camps of either side, according to the fortune of the day. Concerning their religion, though they do exactly adhere to the ancient rules of *Delphos*, and that with a seeming zeale outwardly, yet seldome or never perform they those rights, with an intention to observe any morality; in so much as it may be said, they rather use such ceremonies, because they will not change customes, than that they hope to receive absolute benefit by them; in this manner being content to suffer themselves to be flattered, only with an opinion they do well, when they will not take any
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care at all to be better satisfied. In conclusion, they love to talke of lands & possessions, with-held injuriously from their right, but never attempt any means probable to come to them again. And this, Lady, being as neer as I can guess, the truest character of our common people, I shall again return to the prosecution of our story.

As I said before, after the Kings of *Lydia* by many defeats given to some of the principal of the Nobility, that esteemed themselves Princes in Authority and command, if not in Titles and right, had settled an absolute Monarchy in the Island, by degrees, the people were brought into a kind of slavish condition, since they conceived they were fitter to be made obey than to command, not only in regard of their lack of knowledge, and constancy in the general, but also for that the governours perceived, that however they wanted sufficient industry to mannage the Counsels, as well as their lawes in their own Countrey, yet they had spight enough against the jurisdiction of strangers: It was sufficient they did not affect other Nations, and therefore could not love the *Lydians*, inasmuch as notwithstanding the apparent benefit they found, by practising and using the *Lydian* customes, in many things concerning the sowing of Corn and the like, they rather chole to undergo the penalty, for their not putting them in execution, than they would in any kinde subject themselves, to those laudable and profitable observations; as if their pride appeared sufficiently satisfied, in not seeming willing to follow that which certainly was the best, for no reason but that it was prescribed them; however I must say the Noble men in the general, were not only for the most part very much civilized, but

extremely affected to the Crown of *Lydia*, as knowing from thence were brought learning, riches, and education: though some great persons amongst them, notwithstanding rather endeavoured to head many barbarous factions, (out of I cannot tell what manner of sordid ambition) than they would either come to Court themselves, or seem to hold any friendly correspondency with any of those that did, though they were of the same blood and kindred with themselves; which not only raised many jealousies amongst the Nobility in the particular, but alwaies caused a great Court suspition, concerning the affections of the Nation in the general, so that those that for the most part, attended upon the person of the Kings in *Lydia*, notwithstanding their continuall industry to do their Princess service, were looked upon with no eyes of favour and grace, by reason of this unpollished ambition of those Lords, that still addicted themselves to the old *Cretan* manners; as it were loving it for no other cause, but that it seemed to thwart and contradict the *Lydian* customes: This pride indiscreetly executed, at the first I say, created jealousies in our Princes, which again returned hatred to us; wherefore, as the wisdom of counsellors, thinking to provide against rebellions would never make choice of any of the natives for governors, so the natives thinking themselves dishonoured thereby, were unwilling to obey such Commanders set over them: upon this followed complaints on all sides; And many of our Lords, not daring to dispute the right of their justifications in *Lydia*, oftentimes forbore to appear upon summons, so that advantages being made of their fear, rather than knowledge of their crimes, their estates became con-

confiscated for their omission; which of necessity enflamed their hearts to thoughts of more disloyalty, untill at last their spleen (joyning with the humours of the people, who had not much to lose because they would possess but little) made them at last fall into an open Rebellion, which for some years filled our Countrey with blood and slaughters.

But now Madam, said he, as I have but hitherto presented you with a glass, whereby you may the better understand the story I am to tell, so shall I in as brief a way as I can, repeat unto you not only the occasions as I conceive of the late Tragedies, acted in this poor and unfortunate Island, but also make you acquainted with the very realities themselves: to this purpose I must say in the reign of a late Queen of *Syria*, a woman endowed with admirable gifts of nature, as also had a spirit answerable thereunto, (whereby she seemed to give her undertaking countenance) fell out both with the Arch *Flamin* of *Delphos* and the great King of *Egypt* at the same time: the first she pretended usurped an unjust Authority over her Subjects and dominion, as the other she alleged, too ambitiously endeavoured an universal Monarchy over all Princes: these differences likely to go into some desperation, between these mighty persons and the Queen, gave causes sufficient of admiration to all these parts of *Asia*; and the rather, for that, as they could not well comprehend, how such a masculine courage could be in a woman, so did they as little know, in what manner she would defend these extraordinary breaches: but experience quickly made them see, she not only intended, but prosecuted her intentions with all vigour: for as she absolutely abolished within a short space, all the juris-

ction of *Delphos* out of her Kingdoms, so did she within a while after, give the King of *Egypt* such overthrowes by sea, that scarce could he in many years recover his losses. In the interim, whilst these contentions were acting, with no small violence of all sides, to the contentment (if not the amazement) of many other Princes, that esteemed the differences a kind of safety to themselves; The unwise Island of *Creet* believing they might again recover, either all or some part of their lost privileges, (pretending they were obstructed in their Religion) not long after entred into open Rebellion. To tell you, that the main motives of their risings, proceeded from the instigations of *Egypt* and *Delphos*, is not an improbable conjecture; since as the one in a ceremonious assembly of *Flamins*, declared the Queen an accursed enemy to his rights and jurisdiction, so did the other send Forces into *Creet*, to strengthen the people in their pretensions; which however these Assistants, seemed not to prevail entirely against the Queens governours in the Island, yet apparently they procured her Officers, so many disturbances from time to time, that however she neither failed them with supplies, or was wanting to them in counsels, yet for many years together, the Rebels kept a considerable body in the field, in despite of all the Queens forces.

In this manner these contentions continued many years; for as the Queen seemed with majestick spleen, to be inflamed with her Subjects disobedience, so were her Subjects in their rage animated by Messengers sent from *Delphos*, to put them always in mind of their Religious Obligations: whereunto being added their hate to the *Lydian* government, & the confidence they had of *Egypt*s assistance, they seemed

seemed oftentimes to have received a new spirit of valour, contrary to their nature and custom; however for the most part, they rather made use of their subtilty, in sending out small parties to circumvent & entrap the enemy, than being willing at any time to hazard in the field a main battel, to decide the controverſie; which was the reason the war was so long prolonged, with several successes of either side: for as the *Cretans* had the Advantage of perfectly knowing the Country, amongst Woods and Bogs, so had the *Lydiens* a great deal the better in their conduct and resolution: but which way soever businesses went, as the Rebels were conducted by a Nobleman of the Nation, whose Family and Name was as great amongst the people, as if his Spleen and Courage, was against the Queen, so became the State of *Lydia*, exceeding weary of the Warr; being most certain, the money disbursed in the contention, would never by any conquest she could make of the Island, be again repaid into her coffers: wherefore, after some deliberation it was resolved, to send over a principal Favourite of the Queens, whereby to put the sooner an end by his authority and fidelity, to those chargeable and bloody differences, that not onely destroyed her people in the Island of *Creet*, but disquieted her own government in the Kingdom of *Lydia*: and the rather was it so determined, for that she had been perswaded, that the Souldiers of her army in this Island, lengthened the war on purpose, for their own benefit and command: knowing when that should be once absolutely finished, their esteem at Court, would fall with their want of employment in the field: but contrary to her expectation, this Favourite of hers having more ambition than foresight,

(since he was sent away only by his enemies, to separate him from the Queens person) as also being more vain-glorious in his thoughts, than experienced in his yeers (and so consequently not having much knowledge either of the Countrey, or the enemy) after a most vast expence of money, and nothing in a manner acted against the Rebels, he returned again into *Lydia*, with disgrace and dishonour, which at last by reason of his subtil adversaries practices, that undermined him in the Queens favour, he lost his head upon a scaffold, by the common Executioner, in whose place notwithstanding, such a brave personage was sent, that in a very short space, reduced the Rebels to so much necessary reason, both in their persons and estates, that they offered quietly to submit to mercy, without either condition or contention. This being entertained, and the people ready in all places to lay down arms, the Queen her self suddenly changes her own habitation here, for a more lasting one in another world; that made all things at a stand for a time. But as *Euarchus* father met with no opposition, in that possession that belonged unto him with so much justice, so upon his first entrance into *Lydia*, he was presented with an absolute submission, not only of the great Noblemen of our Island, that had for many yeers contended with the Queen, but also of all his party, that were neither few in number, or penurious in fortunes. Nevertheless, although this King was mercifull enough in his disposition, as well to pardon all faults, as to forget former disaffections, yet the hungry *Misfians* his natural countrey men, perceiving that the forfeitures of the Island of *Creet*, by reason of the late rebellions, were not of valed, to be returned
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back again to the owners, without some profits made thereby ; and finding the situation and fertility of the Countrey able to make full reparation to their greedy stomacks, for the defects and sterility of their own habitations , not only perswaded the King, that his act of mercy would prove of dangerous consequence to rebellious dispositions hereafter , but obtained at his hands , so many grants of possession in this Island, that gave them sufficient conveniency and authority, to transport a great part of their own people hither , where being established after a while with peace and security, by their industry, joyned together with their power, they soon outed most of the inhabitants of their estates ; and at last took from all in general both their liberty and religion ; in so much as many antient Families were either turned a begging in their own Countrey, or forced to seek servile offices in other parts, for subsistence. This, I must say, is the common allegation of the natives ; and in part true, although I must confess much of their miseries proceeded from their lazy dispositions (as I have formerly said) that would not permit them, to equal other Nations in painful endeavour ; rather chusing in their natures to be wanderers, than become willing to submit their persons under the jurisdiction of better Customs. But be it what it will , in this condition they remained without any power at all to act, until the beginning of these differences, between our King *Euarchus*, and his great Senate ; when the people, (not having altogether forgot their old hate to the *Lydians*, and now finding some opportunity to express it) began a new to flie out ; however the particular causes were these: When the *Myssians* first proclaimed their dislike, by leading Armies to oppose

pose Kingly authority in their own Nation, one *Polinex*, once Governour of this Island (though since destroyed for his service) prepared a company of expert Souldiers, to be imployed against the *Myssians*, as esteeming them most proper to the purpose, in regard of their hate to those people: but, not to detain you over long by needless repetitions, and circumstances of things which are only conjectural, After that our King, *Euarchus*, in a manner had committed the mannagement of affairs into the hands of his great Senate of *Lydia*, it was not held either needful by way of opposition, or convenient by reason of the expence, to continue a foot those Souldiers that had been leavied and provided by *Polinex*, in this Island of *Crete*; wherefore orders were presently sent to disband the Troops; but in some sort nevertheless to give them satisfaction, lest they might prove dangerous and troublesome to the Government, they gave them what liberty they pleased, to contract with other Princes, for their future entertainment in some forein Wars. However the *Mysians*, when they perceived the souldiers were thus by bargain to be transported; either fearing their return in a body to their prejudice, or rather (I may say) envying all felicity of theirs, made earnest sute to the Senate of *Lydia*, (w.th whom then they held a most intimate correspondency) not to suffer them to go out of the Kingdome. As these perswasions prevailed, before the consideration of the contract made for their transportation, so the people of this Island, being not only inflamed with these injurious proceedings, as they esteemed them, but also fearing an utter extirpation of the whole Nation, by reason of the malice & practices of the *Myssians*, of a sudden
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(having entred before into many consultations amongst themselves) began as well to make use of those Arms they were already provided of, as to seize into their hands many strong Towns in the Country: however in the interim, they set forth many Proclamations in their own defence; which in effect were to this purpose, that in regard the King himself had in a manner lost all his own Prerogative, whereby he was formerly impowered to Govern; they in their own behalfs now were necessitated, to take up arms for their preservation both against *Myssia* and the Kingdom of *Lydia*, that sought not only the abolishing of their Religion, but an extirpation of their persons; but however these pretensions were plausible enough, and perhaps no otherwise meant by them at the first, yet the outrageous violence committed of both sides, soon drew many Commanders of *Creet* from other parts, who instead of contributing their endeavours in making only a defensive War, they violently perswaded the people to stand upon their own pretended Privileges before the Conquest; as having either Kings of their proper Nation, or at leastwise no strangers to command over them; whilst they themselves also began to challenge old Dignities and Titles, with the possession of most of the Lands in the Country, that for many yeers had belonged to other persons and families, that perhaps had bought them to them and their heirs, at most valuable and considerable rates. This in a very short space set the whole Island in such a burning and outrageous flame, that slaughters of such execrable natures were committed, (to the very horror, as I may say, of mankind) both my self, and some other Noblemen of the Country were forced to take up arms, not only
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for the defence of our persons, and estates, but to bring the people of both sides to a better temper: wherein, for my own part, as I used what moderation I could in executions upon my Countrey-men, at what time soever I gained any victories over them, (which truly was not very seldom) so by this means their hatred began to be augmented towards me as against a *Myssian* enemy: insomuch as they began to form orderly Counsels of their part, as we did entertain with regularity those Supplies were sent us out of *Lydia*; for however they had the greatest part of the Country at their dispose, yet we held the most commodious for our purpose; things resting in doubtfull though bloody conflicts, until the differences between our King *Euarchus*, and the Senate now remaining at *Sardis*, began to take up new considerations, in the thoughts and appetites of all sorts of people, that had any relation to the *Lydian* Government; wherefore the King having drawn Armies into the Field for his own pretended defence, as the Senate had raised forces to contend against his intentions, the Souldiers under my command, being more desirous to serve in the *Lydian* wars, where gain and honour were (as they thought to be obtained) than to remain here without either pay or benefit, both they and my self in a particular way, endeavoured to serve the King against his Senate; and of a sudden, shuffling up a Truce with the Rebels in these parts, upon their faithfull promises, not only to submit to their Princes pleasure, upon reasonable conditions, but further to assist him in his present wars, both with their persons and estates, I sent all the Souldiers presently to the Kings Armies, keeping in the interim this Town, with some other under my jurisdiction, to be disposed of as he shall at any time appoint.

appoint. In fine, as this is as short a relation as I can make of those accidents, that have befallen our unhappy Countrey, from the beginning of the *Lydian* Rule, so cannot I but esteem my self extremely satisfied for the present, that although it hath not yet come within the compass of my ability, to do the King any remarkable or profitable Services; that the Princess *Cloria* is not only her self in person, come under the power of that command I hold under her Father, but that her distresses and necessities at Sea also have been in part, relieved by the natural situation of this Island of *Creet*, which as a good and lucky *Omen*, will preserve it henceforward, I hope from destruction, if not grant it a better blessing, than lately it hath received from the favour of the heavens; and with these words, accompanied by such a look, that was capable enough to win belief, concerning his affectionate endeavours to the King, he ended his Discourse.

Roxana, after she had returned the Governour thanks, with two or three sighs, to express in a sort her inward sorrow for the accidents, as it were both pitying the people, and doubting the event, (since as *Dedalus* himself seemed not over-confident of his power, so had she heard of many Factions in the Island :) she desired him, that he would be yet pleased, to augment so far her Obligation, as in a few more words, added to his further trouble, to let her know, how the common interest at present stood in the Country, as vvell in regard of the King, as the Senate; for that himself appeared not to have (as she said) an absolute command through the whole Island.

Dedalus soon replied, That as he could not much brag of the affections of the Inhabitants, concerning

cerning his own particular person (not only, in regard he had given them, as he said, many desperate overthrows, in their late contentions; but for that he was not of the same opinions with them in the worship of the Gods; upon the which they seemed to ground their chief dislikes against both King and Senate) so could he easily resolve her, that the Country in the general was divided into three Factions: the first, being for the King intirely; the second inclined to the Antient Natives, and the third was wholly addicted to the Senates Interest; but whether in the end will prevail, said he, the Gods only can inform; since, however the first seems to have the best right, yet the two remaining exceed in power and probability: the one being better furnished with Money and Provisions, as the others are accompanied with numbers and violence. As he was about to proceed in his Discourse, they were both advertised of the return of those Messengers, that had been sent to enquire after the safety of the other Ship wherein *Narcissus* was; vvhho being presently called into their Presence, one of them gave this short account of their voiage by Sea: having for many days, said he, not only coasted several Islands belonging to *Greece*, but much also of the continent appertaining to the Lesser *Asia*, we could have no news at all of any such Vessel, either Shipwrackt, or put into Harbour; until at last by chance we met with a Merchant of *Rhodes*, going for *Carthage*, who informed us, that for certain before his departure from that City, a gallant Ship both with *Syrian* & *Egyptian* Colours, was arrived in the chief Haven belonging to the Island, however much beaten and torn with the Weather: but what people or Commodities were contained in her, he said he could not inform

inform us, in respect he himself was under Sail upon his departure, when that Ship came in.

The Messenger, also added further, that a great Fleet of *Lydian* Vessels, that were newly come upon the Seas, lay between *Rhodes* and *Cyprus*, which hindred them for the present, for making any further Enquiry or Experiment, since if they should have approached the Island, as he said, it had been almost impossible to have escaped, by reason they could not but have easily been discovered to be of King *Euarchus* Party: it is not to be doubted, but as this intelligence sufficiently satisfied them, concerning the safety of the other Ship, so did they haste to the Princess Chamber with the Messengers, to give her Information of the Expedition, which for the present hindred the period of *Dedalus* his Relation, concerning the passages of the Island, according to his intention.

FINIS.

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